Aug 11th, 1959

During the earthquake and fire in April, 1906, Mr. Edward Vandernaillen picked up this old record book from the ruins in the vicinity of the old library.

He passed away many years ago and his wife, Mrs Margaret Vandernaillen, kept the old book among her possessions through the years.

Just prior to her death last year, she gave this book to me and ask that I return it to the library as a gift from her.

C.W. Ebeling
Castro Valley, Calif.

C.W. Ebeling

FIRST VISITOR'S REGISTER
MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
1873

Includes signatures of
"Capt" U.S.Grant (Later General U.S.Grant)
D.C.Broderick, General John C.Fremont,
Bayard Taylor, Rev. Thos Starr King;
John Sutter, Richard Burton, C.P.Huntington,
Jose Vallejo, Salvador Vallejo, Don Pedro
Carillo, Don Jose Noriega.

Board of Trustees Minutes, 11 December 1854 – 22 July 1857. VOLUME I. Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco.

FIT
EEE

of the

Mechanics Institute

		283.00
	Appleton & Co	500.65
		300.00
	Co	600.00
"	Appleton & Co	60.00
"	Beaver	40.00
"	Emerson	57.00
"	on acct. Catalogue	110.00
		1951.65

Board of Trustees Minutes, 11 December 1854 – 22 July 1857. VOLUME I. Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco.

Monday Evening 11th December 1854

A Meeting of Mechanics was held in the City Tax Collectors Office (City Hall) on Monday evening 11th Dec 1854 for the purpose of establishing a Mechanics Institute in this City.

The Meeting was Organized by calling Mr George K Gluyas to the Chair & electing Mr Rod K Matheson Sec Pro tem

On Motion of Mr Matheson a Comt of five was appointed to draft a Constitution & By-Laws. The Chair appointed Messrs Haywood Rod K Matheson S S Williams E J Stein & Henry E Cullum

On Motion the Chair was added to the Comt.

On Motion of Mr Haywood the proceedings of this Meeting was ordered to be published in all the Daily papers of the City

On Motion Adjourned until wednesday evening the 3rd of Jany 1855

Rod K Matheson
Sec Pro tem

Wednesday Evening 3rd Jany 1855

An Adjourned meeting of Mechanics was held in the Chamber of the Board of Aldermen on Wednesday evening 3rd January 1855 Mr G K Gluyas in the Chair

The minutes of last meeting not being at hand the Sec gave a verbal abstract of the proceedings On Motion the report was received Mr B F Haywood of the Comt to draft a plan of Operations reported the following "We, the undersigned being desirous of establishing a Mechanics' Institute in the City of San Francisco & of furthering the same, do hereby agree to pay the respective sums opposite our names, to be taken in the Stock of the Institute at Twenty five ($25.00) Dollars per Share. We do further agree, to be governed by such Constitution & By-Laws as a majority of the subscribers may adopt; provided nevertheless, that no subscriber shall be liable to make any

Vote untill ten (10) per cent. on the amount of his subscription shall have been paid to the Chairman of the Meeting.

It is also further agreed and understood, that these subscriptions shall not be binding untill the sum of Ten Thousand ($10,000) Dollars shall have been subscribed"

On motion the report of the Comt was received & the Comt discharged. On motion of Mr Piper a Comt of Sixteen was appointed to procure Subscribers

The Chair appointed Messrs

✓ Benj F Haywood	W Stein	Seper F Seaman
Peter Donahue	W Larche	(J H.) Parkett
(H) ✓ M C Elliot	W Dennis	S S Williams
J C Lane	✓ M Coffman	W Howard
✓ S H Williams	C H Gough	✓ G W Hofgegop

Howard

On Motion Mr Parkett was invited to address the Meeting which he did in an eloquent manner throwing out very many valuable sugestions

On motion all parties present were invited to sign the subscriptions lists & Shares to the amount of One hundred & thirteen Shares were taken On Motion Adjourned to meet at the Call of the president.

Rod K Matheson
Sec Pro tem

This must be Jany.

Wednesday 24th Jany 1855

A meeting of Mechanics was held, for the purpose of forming a mechanics institute, in the Chamber of the Board of Aldermen on Wednesday evening the 24th of Jany 1855

Mr G K Gluyas in the Chair

Minutes of last meeting read & approved. Mr Haywood of the Comt to procure Subscriptions of Stock reported that Six of Comt had 265 Shares taken making Six Thousand Six hundred & Twenty five ($6625.00) Dollars

On Motion the Sec was authorised to see balance of Comt & ascertain the amount of their Subscriptions notify the president and call the next meeting at such time and

place as may be deemed expedient

An Opportunity being given Seven More Shares were taken making a total of Six Thousand Eight hundred ($6800.) Dollars Subscribed

On Motion Adjourned

Robt Matheson
Sec Pro tem

Thursday 8th Feby 1855

Pursuant to Call a meeting of Mechanics was held, for the purpose of forming a Mechanics institute, in the Chamber of the board of Alderman on Thursday evening 8th Feby 1855

Mr G K Gluyas in the Chair

Minutes of last Meeting read & Approved

Mr Haywood of the Comt on Subscriptions Reported that the Amount of Ten Thousand ($10,000) Dollars had been Subscribed to the lists in the hands of the Comt

On Motion the report was received & Comt Continued

On Motion it was resolved that each member of the Comt be authorised to Collect Ten per Cent of the Amount of each Share Subscribed & receipt for the Same

On Motion it was Resolved, That a Comt of 3 be appointed to prepare a Constitution to be Submitted at the next meeting. The Chair appointed Messrs Haywood Parkett, & Larche

On Motion it was resolved that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet on Thursday evening the 22nd Inst evening

On Motion the Sec & President was authorised to pay all bills ordered by the institute

Messrs Gluyas, Parkett, & Haywood reported that Col Baker Dr P W Gibbons & the Revd Mr Wheyat had Volenteered to deliver a Course of Lectures before the Institute

On Motion Messrs Parkett, Haywood, & Gluyas were appointed to confer with the Gentlemen Volenteering their Services & report at the next meeting

On Motion Adjourned

Robt Matheson
Sec Pro tem

Wednesday 21st Feby 1855

An Adjourned Meeting of Mechanics was held for the purpose of forming a Mechanics Institute, in the Chamber of the Board of Alderman on the evening of the 21st Feby 1855

Mr G K Gluyas in the Chair

Minutes of last Meeting read & Approved

Mr Haywood of the Comt on Constitution reported progress report received & Comt Continued

On Motion Messrs Piper & Bugbee were added to the Comt on Constitution

Comt on Conference with the Gentleman that had volenteered to lecture for the institute Pleaded Guilty to neglect of duty & with promises of Amendment asked for further time which was Kindly granted by an indulgent Constituency

Cash received as 10 per Cent of Subscriptions One Hundred & Eighty Seven .50/100 Dollars

Adjourned to meet Thursday evening 1st March

Robt Matheson
Sec Pro tem

Thursday 1st March 1855

A Meeting of Mechanics was held in the Chamber of the Board of Alderman on the evening of the 1st March 1855 to form a Mechanics Institute

Mr G K Gluyas in the Chair

Mr Parkett of the Comt on Lectures reported progress report accepted & Comt Continued

Mr Haywood of the Comt on Constitution reported a Draft of a Constitution which was Read

On Motion it was Resolved that the Constitution be Taken up Article by Article & Acted upon

On Motion Article 1st & 2nd was adopted

Art 3rd Amended & Adopted Upon the reading of Art 4th a lengthy discussion ensued upon the number of Shares that should entitle a Subscriber to a Vote whereupon the whole matter was referred back to the Comt with power

to amend & report at next meeting

On motion adjourned until Tuesday evening March 6th 1855.

Receipts upon ten per cent subscription One Hundred & fifty two 50/100 ($152.50) Dollars

Robt Matheson
Sec Pro tem

Tuesday 6th March 1855

An adjourned meeting of the Mechanics Institute was held on the evening of the 6th March in the Chamber of the Board of Aldermen. Mr G. K. Gluyas in the Chair

minutes of last meeting read & approved

Mr B. F. Haywood of the Committee on Lectures reported progress. On motion the report was received & Committee discharged. The Committee on Constitution reported back the Constitution as revised which was on motion taken up Article by Article amended & adopted

On motion it was Resolved that the Constitution be taken up as a whole & the Secretary be instructed to engross the same

On motion it was Resolved that the President, Secretary, & a Committee of 3 be instructed to advertise for 20 days (in at least 2 of the Dail papers) a call for a meeting to elect Officers for the Institute for the ensuing year. The Chair appointed messrs Tichenor, Haywood & Parrott the Committee to sign the call for a meeting

Receipts for the evening $7.50

Journed (On motion) for 20 days

Robt Matheson
Sec

Thursday March 29th 1855.

In accordance with the notice given through the public press for the previous twenty days the subscribers to the Mechanics Institute met at the Chamber of the Board of Aldermen, for the purpose of electing Officers for the ensuing year.

Mr. G. K. Gluyas Best pro tem. in the Chair.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

On motion it was voted to proceed to the election of Officers for the "Mechanics Institute" for the ensuing year.

On motion Messrs. Dexter, S. H. Williams and Boyd were appointed judges of election.

A Ballot being had resulted in the election of Benjamin Haywood for President.

A ballot for vice President was then had and Mr. John Sime was declared duly elected Vice President.

Mr. P. B. Dexter was nominated and elected Recording Secretary.

Mr. Wm M. LaRoche was elected Corresponding Secretary.

Mr. J. W. Brooks was elected Treasurer.

The following gentlemen were duly elected Directors. viz. Messrs. G. Elliott, George Coffran, S. H. Williams, James Ballentine, F. F. Macready, Ely Cook and S. C. Bugbee.

On motion it was voted that the thanks of the Institute be tendered to Messrs. G. K. Gluyas and R. Matheson for the able and efficient manner they discharged the duties of President and Secretary of the Institute pending its organization.

Receipts $42.50 Matheson

On motion the Institute adjourned, the Officers to meet at the room of S. C. Bugbee on thursday April 5th 1855.

Robt Matheson Sec. pro tem.

San Francisco April 5th 1855.

The Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco met this evening at Messrs. Bugbee & Hoffman's room, pursuant to agreement.

President Haywood in the chair.

Present all the Directors, except Mr. Macready.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to make out Certificates of election of the several officers of the Mechanics Institute, attested by the Judges of election.

It was voted that a Committee of three members be appointed to draft Bylaws for the Institute. The President appointed as that Committee Messrs.

Com. on Bylaws { Bugbee, Williams & Dexter.

On motion the president was added thereto.

On motion it was voted, that there be a Committee appointed, to consist of three members, to be known as the Committee of Ways and Means. The president named the following Directors as constituting said Committee viz. Messrs

Com. On Ways and Means and Accounts { Williams, Elliott & Cook.

It was voted that there be a Committee appointed to consist of three Directors, to be known as the Committee on Library and Reading Room, & Building. The president named the following directors as constituting said Committee, viz. Messrs

Com. Library ~~and~~ Reading Room and Building { Cofran, Ballentine & MacReady

On motion, Mr. Lavche was added thereto.

On motion it was voted that there be a Committee appointed, to consist of three Directors, to be known as the Committee on Books and Donations. The President named the following Directors as constituting said Committee, viz. Messrs.

Com. On Book, and Donations { Elliott, Bugbee & Williams

It was voted that there be a Committee appointed, to consist of three directors, to be known as the Committee on Accounts.

The president named the following directors as constituting said committee, viz. Messrs.

Com. on Accounts. { Williams, Elliott & Cook.
unites to Com. Ways & Means & Account

On motion it was voted that there be a Committee appointed to consist of two members, to be known as the Committee on Lectures. The President named the following members as constituting said Committee, viz. Messrs.

Com. On Lectures { Benjamin Haywood Pres. John Sime vice do.

On motion the President was added thereto.

A Committee was appointed by the Board, to apply for, and obtain a Charter for The Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco. Messrs. Ballentine, Haywood and Sime were appointed on that Committee.

Com. On Charter

The Secretary read a communication from Mr. Ira C. Root, asking for the appointment of Librarian to the Institute, which, on motion was received, and Mr. Root was appointed Librarian by the Board of Directors.

On motion the Committee of Ways and Means was instructed to call on Mr. G. K. Gluyas late president pro. tem. and obtain from him an account of the moneys received from the Shareholders.

Mr. Bugbee presented to the Institute a copy of the "Bible", "Constitution of the U.S." "Encyclopedia of Architecture", and "Curtis on Conveyancing", being the first donation made to the Institute.

On motion it was voted that the thanks of the Board be tendered to Mr. Bugbee for the above.

On motion the Board adjourned to Tuesday evening April 10th at 7½ O'clock.

F. B. Leyster Sec.

Tuesday evening April 10th 1855

The Board of Directors and Officers not obtaining the use of Messrs Bugbee & Hoffman's room, appointed a meeting to be held at the Mayor's Office on Thursday evening April 12th 1855

F. B. Leyster Sec.

Thursday Evening April 12/55

The Board met at the Mayor's Office pursuant to appointment.

Vice President Sime in the chair. Present Messrs. Elliott, Cook, Ballentine, Williams and Macready.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Williams from the Committee on Bylaws presented a draft of Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, which was read at length.

On motion it was then taken up, read section by section, amended and adopted.

On Motion the Committee on Bylaws was instructed to ascertain the cost of printing of from three to five Hundred Copies of the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations, and if not too expensive, to contract for the printing of five hundred Copies.

It was voted that the names of the subscribers to the Institute be appended thereto.

Reports of Committees

Com. of Ways and Means and Accounts, reported that Mr. Gluyas, late President pro tem. had been waited on in reference to the funds collected by him from subscribers, and that he had promised to make an exhibit, in a few days of all money received by him from members.

Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building Reported progress.

Committee on Books and Donations. Reported progress.

Committee on Lectures. Reported progress.

Committee on Charter. Reported progress.

The Secretary informed the Board that the Mayor had granted to them the use of his Office on such evenings of meeting as they might select.

On Motion the thanks of the Board was voted to the Mayor for his Courtesy as above expressed.

Mr. H. A. Miller, through the Librarian presented to the Institute, two Volumes, a Copy of "Compendium of the Census of the U. S. for 1850." and "Explorations of the Valley of the Amazon." by Lieut. Gibbon of the U. S. Navy.

It was voted that the thanks of the Board be returned to Mr. Miller for the above donation.

On motion the Board adjourned to Tuesday evening April 17th

J. B. Dexter Sec.

Tuesday Evening April 17th 55.

There being no quorum present, it was appointed to meet on Tuesday Evening April 24th

J. B. Dexter Sec.

Tuesday Evening April 24/55

The Board of Directors met pursuant to appointment.

Present Messrs. Macready, Elliott, Cook, Ballentine and Williams. The president in the Chair.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Special Committees were called.

Mr. J. W. Brooks the treasurer of the Institute from the Committee appointed at a former meeting of the Board to ascertain from Mr. Gluyas the Amount of money received by him from Subscribers to the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, and to request him to pay the same over to the Committee, presented a Statement from him, showing that there had passed into his hands, while President pro tem. $522.50. of which he had expended for the Institute $51.50. the balance $471— Received by Mr. Matheson late Sec. pro tem. and paid out by him, $20— leaving, according to the above Showing a clear balance in his hands of $451— which balance, the Board was assured, should be promptly handed over, as requested.

On motion of the Vice President, the president and Treasurer were requested to wait again upon Mr. Gluyas and demand from him a Statement in writing, showing the Amount of money received from Subscribers to the Institute, from whom received, and how and for what purpose disbursed, and to demand that any balance in his hands be paid over to the Treasurer.

A communication from a Mr. J. W. Heard, asking compensation for services said to have been rendered in preparing the Chamber of the Board of

Aldermen for the meeting of the members of the Institute, was read and referred to the Secretary.

Mr. Williams from the Committee on By laws,

Reported that they had bargained for the printing of 500. Copies of the Constitution and By laws of the "Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco", and they hoped to have some copies ready by the first Monthly meeting of the Institute.

Further time was given to the Committee.

The Vice President from the Committee on Charter of incorporation,

Reported that the necessary documents had been filed with the Clerk of the County Court, in accordance with the general law, and that the Institute was now a legally incorporated body. The Committee was discharged.

On motion it was voted that the several Standing Committees be reorganized. The President then announced the Standing Committees in accordance with By laws.

Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts.

Messrs.

Williams.
Elliott and
Cook.

Committee on Library ~~and~~ Reading Room & Building.

Messrs.

Cofran
Ballentine and
Macready.

Committee on Books and Donations.

Messrs.

Elliott
Bugbee and
Williams

On motion Mr. Wm. M. LaRoche, Corresponding Secretary, was added to the above Committee.

On motion the Committee on Lectures, was made to Consist of the President, Benjamin Haywood, and the Vice President, John Sime.

On motion the Bond of the Treasurer was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means & Accounts, with instructions to report at next meeting of the Board.

On motion the Board of Directors adjourned to Tuesday evening May 1st at 7½ O'Clock.

T B Dexter Sec.

Tuesday Evening May 1st 1855

The Board of Directors of the Institute met this evening pursuant to adjournment. Present the President and Vice President and the following Directors, viz. Messrs. Macready, Cook, Coffman, Williams and Ballentine.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts, to whom was referred the Bond of the Treasurer,

Reported, that they had examined the same, and found the Bond satisfactory, and recommended that it be accepted by the Board.

On motion the report was received and the Bond accepted.

The Committee on Library and Reading Room and Building, to whom the subject was referred, reported, that the President of the Board of Assistant Aldermen had granted to the Institute the use of their Chamber for the next monthly meeting to be held tomorrow evening.

The special Committee, consisting of the President and Treasurer who had been requested at a former meeting of the Board to demand from Mr. G. K. Gluyas the funds in his hands belonging to the Institute, Reported that they had performed the duty assigned them, that no funds had yet been obtained from him, but that promise of speedy payment had been made, and that the whole matter would probably be satisfactorily arranged before the next meeting of the Board.

On motion the Committee had further time granted, and were authorized, if nothing more satisfactory could not be done, to

receive a note with satisfactory endorsers, covering the amount withheld.

A communication from Mr. T. Boyd, covering a design for a seal, which he proffered to finish and present to the Institute, was read and ordered on file.

The design for seal was adopted and the Secretary instructed to inform Mr. Boyd that his beautiful and appropriate design was accepted, and that the thanks of the Board was unanimously voted.

Received from W. B. Nichols five Dollars, first installment on two shares of Stock.

There being no further business before the Board it adjourned to Tuesday evening May the 8th at 7½ O'clock.

P. B. Sexton Sec.

Wednesday Evening, May 2nd 1855

In pursuance of notice given through two of the City papers, and in accordance with Sec. 3rd Art. 8. of the Constitution, a monthly meeting of the Institute was held this evening in the Chamber of the Common Council.

The meeting was called to order by the President, and it appearing that there was not a Constitutional quorum present, as required by Sec. 2. Art. 8. it was voted to adjourn to the first Wednesday in June.

P. B. Sexton Sec.

Tuesday Evening May 8th 1855.

There not being a quorum of the Board present, the meeting was adjourned to the next regular night of meeting.

Received from Wm. M. Hussey five Dollars being first installment on two Shares of Stock.

F. B. Dexter Sec.

Tuesday Evening May 15th 1855.

The Board of Directors met this evening at the Mayor's Office.

Present the following Directors, viz. Messrs. Ballentine, Cofran, Cook, Macreedy and Williams.

The President Mr. B. Haywood, and the Vice President Mr. John Sime, being both absent the Board was called to order by the Secretary in accordance with Art. 7th Section 7. of the Constitution.

On motion Mr. Cofran was appointed President pro. tem.

The minutes of the proceedings of the two previous meetings were read and approved.

The Secretary was instructed by the Board to procure a blank Receipt Book in which is to be taken the receipts of the Treasurer and others, Officers of the Institute, and such other Blank Books as he might deem necessary.

Reports from the Several Standing

Committees were then called for.

The Committee of Ways and means and Accounts.

No report.

The Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building.

No report.

It was urged upon the attention of the Committee, that some provision should be made at as early a day as convenient for procuring a room for the meetings of the Institute and the Board of Directors.

The following bills against the Institute were presented for payment, which, on motion were referred to the Committee of Ways & Means and accounts, to report at the next meeting of the Board, viz.

Hanna & Co's Bill for 1000 Blank Receipts	(No. 1)	$12,00
E. G. Hall's " " 2 " Books	(No. 2.)	11.00
Franklin Printing Office 500 Copies of Constitution & Bylaws	(No. 4.)	75.00

The Committee on Books and Donations.

No report.

The Secretary was instructed to take charge of and keep until further directed by the Board, such Books as have been donated to the Institute.

Received from Isaac E. Davis $5.00 first installment on two Shares of Stock.

There being no further business before the Board, an adjournment was voted to Tuesday evening May 22nd 1855.

F. B. Dexter Sec.

Tuesday Evening May 22nd 1855.

The Board of Directors met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President and the following Directors, viz Messrs. Ballentine, Cook, Elliott, Macready and Williams.

The minutes of the proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from standing Committees were called for. Whereupon Mr. Williams from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts to which had been referred at a previous meeting the following bills against the Institute — viz

Hanna Nos Bill for printing 1000. Blank Receipts	No. 1.	$ 12,00
E. G. Hall's Bill for 2 Blank Books	No. 2.	11,00
Franklin Printing Office Bill for Printing 500. Copies of the Constitution & Byelaws of Institute	No. 4.	75,00
		$98,00

Reported, that upon examination of the above bills, the same had been found Correct, and recommended that they be paid, and an Order drawn on the Treasurer for the Amount.

On motion the recommendation was adopted.

The two following bills against the Institute were presented for payment, and were referred to same Committee, viz.

Alta California Printing Office for Advertising done for Institute	No. 3	$9.00
G. W. Murray & Co. Blank Receipt Book	No. 5.	1,50
		$10.50

The Committee Reported them Correct, and recommended that they be paid.

On motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the Amount.

The Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building.

No report.

The Committee on Books and Donations.

No report.

Mr. Brooks, Treasurer from Special Committee, appointed at a former meeting of the board, to make a Settlement with G. K. Gluyas, made the following report,

That he had obtained from Mr. Gluyas a Statement of the moneys received by him while acting as President pro tem. of the Institute, which statement he submitted to the Board. The following is a Copy.

"To Mr. Brooks, Treasurer of Mechanics Institute of San Francisco.

Dear Sir,

I below hand you statement of moneys Collected and disbursed by myself viz.

Total of Collections	$ 522.50
Paid by me as per Vouchers	51.50
	$ 471.00
Collected by R. Matheson and Paid out for Sundries	20.00
Balance due Institute by G. K. Gluyas	$ 451.00

Mr. Matheson will hand in Vouchers of his disbursements. I will also do the same and hand over to you the balance in my hands.

Respectfully Yours
G. K. Gluyas.

Mr. Brooks stated that in accordance with the above Mr. Gluyas had handed to him the following accounts to be collected, viz —

Against the Branch Mint one Bill for	$103.87
do do	156.40
do do	20.00
Do Do	229.00
Over	$509.27

Brot Over	$509.27
One bill against the Russian Ice Co.	154.25
	$663.52
From the above is to be deducted	212.10
Leaving when Collected ———	$451.52

a sum equal to Mr. G's indebtedness as shown by his statement above. That one only of the above accounts had as yet been Collected, viz that against the Russian Ice Co. for $154.25. and that he entertained the belief that the others would be paid at an early day.

On motion the above report was received and the Committee discharged.

The Vice President submitted to the Board the seal for the Institute as designed by Mr. Thomas Boyd, and executed by Mr. J. W. Tucker, and generously presented by these gentlemen to the Institute.

On motion the thanks of the Board was unanimously voted to these gentlemen for their liberal donation, and the Secretary was instructed to communicate to them the high appreciation entertained by the Board of the talent and Mechanical Skill displayed by them in its design and execution.

The Secretary was authorized to settle with Mr. Heard for services said to have been rendered in sweeping the Chamber of the Board of Aldermen, when used for the meetings of the Institute. while organizing) He was further directed to wait upon the several gentlemen holding the lists of Subscribers to to the Institute, and if possible procure said lists.

On motion Adjourned to Tuesday Evening June 5th

F. B. Seyler
Sec.

Tuesday evening June 5th no quorum. Adjourned to June 19th

F. B. Seyler Sec.

Tuesday Evening June 19th

This being regular meeting night it was hoped there would be present a quorum to do business. The President and two Directors only appearing, and it being important that a meeting of the Board should be had at an early day, the President requested the Secretary to notify the Directors that a special meeting of the Board was called for Thursday evening, June 21st at 8 O'clock P. M. Adjourned to Thursday Evening June 21st.

F. B. Seyler Sec.

Thursday Evening June 21st 1855—

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was held this evening in pursuance of a call of the President.

* A quorum being present the Board was called to order by the President, who stated that having understood that the Treasurer, Mr. J. W. Brooks, had it in contemplation to visit with his family the Eastern or Atlantic States, he had thought it advisable to lay the fact before the Directors for their action. He called their attention to Section 10. Article 7 of the Constitution. He also suggested to the Board the propriety of ordering an election for one Director, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the removal from this State of Mr. D. C. Bugbee. The President took occasion also to suggest for their Consideration, the importance of adding to the membership of the Institute, and making collections from those members who have not yet paid the first installment on Shares already Subscribed.

* The following Directors were present viz—Messrs Ballentine, Cofran, Cook, Elliott and Williams.

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of May 22nd were read and approved.

After some Conversation among the Directors in reference to the Contemplated removal from the State of the Treasurer, Mr. Brooks, it was ordered that the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, Mr. D. H. Williams,

wait upon the Treasurer, learn from him whether it be his intention to leave the state, as has been reported, to ascertain for how long a period he expects to be absent, and obtain from him a statement of the Financial condition of the Treasury of the Institute. To report at the next meeting of the Board.

With a view to ascertain the names and number of Subscribers to the Institute, Mr. Ballentine

Moved that a Committee be appointed, and that the Secretary Constitute that Committee to obtain, if possible, the several subscription lists from those members in whose hands they were placed by the Institute on the 3d of January last, in Order to learn the names and number of Subscribers. Carried.

The Committee

On Books and Donations

through the Chairman

Mr. Elliott, Reported, that the Committee hoped soon to be able to announce to the Board the receipt of some valuable donations of Books to the Institute, and urged the importance of procuring a Suitable Reading Room, at as early a day as the means within the Control of the Board would authorize. The Committee reported progress, and asked for further time, which, on motion was granted.

The Committee

on Library, Reading Room and Building.

Reported progress, and asked further time, which, on motion was granted.

On motion of Mr. Cook, the Secretary was instructed to collect the first instalment of ten per Cent on Shares already Subscribed, and on which payment has not been made, and to solicit and obtain as many new Subscribers to the Institute as possible, receiving the first installment as in case of members by whom payment has been made.

With a view to make known to the Officers and members of similar Institutions in the Atlantic States, that the Mechanics of this City, have successfully organized, and placed upon a stable basis, "The Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco," the Secretary was instructed by the Board to address a communication to such other like organizations, as may be known to him, enclosing to each a Copy of the Constitution and By-laws, and soliciting in return such donations of books, scientific apparatus, and works of art, as they may be able or willing to bestow. *

On motion, the Board adjourned to Tuesday evening June the 26th at 8 O'Clock, P. M.

* A Bill from the Evening News No. 7 for advertising, amounting to $4.50 upon being referred to Committee of Ways and means and accounts, was found to be correct, and on

Motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the Amount.

P. P. Dexter

P. S. The Secretary stated that he had, as per instruction by vote of the Board at their meeting on the 22nd Inst. settled with Mr. Heard Keeper of the City Hall, and had paid him

No. 6. — $10.00 as per receipted bill, which on Motion was approved. The following is the Bill.

Institute Dr.

To lighting and cleaning Room (No. 6) $10.00

Rec'd payt.

James M. Heard.

P. P. Dexter Sec

Tuesday evening June 26th 1855.

The Board of Directors at the last meeting held on the 21st June adjourned to this evening in order to prepare some business to be laid before the Institute at the meeting ordered to be held on July 2nd in the Superior Court Room, in the City Hall.

Present the President and Vice President and the following Directors viz. Messrs. Cook, Cofran, Elliott and Macredy. There not being present a quorum, the Board adjourned to meet again at the Hall of the Institute in the "Express Building" on Tuesday evening July 10th at 8 O'Clock P. M.

P. R. Dexter Sec.

Superior Court Room, City Hall,
(Monday,) San Francisco July 2nd 1855.

Agreeably to public notice given through several of the City papers, and in pursuance of a Call of the Board of Directors, a meeting of the members of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, was held this evening at the Superior Court Room.

A Constitutional quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the President, who reminded the members that this was the first monthly meeting called since the organization of the Institute, at which a constitutional quorum had been present. That therefore the Secretary's minutes only recorded the fact that the stated monthly meetings as provided in Article 4. Section 3. of the Constitution had been duly and properly called, but for want of a constitutional quorum as required by Section 2nd of the same Article, the members had only met to adjourn to the next stated meeting. He further stated that the first wednesday of the present month, July, would fall on the 4th and that therefore the Board of Directors had thought it necessary and proper to anticipate the regular night of meeting, (the first wednesday of each month,) as no reasonable hope could be entertained that a quorum could then be had to do the business of the Institute.

The President also called the attention of members to the vacancies then existing in the Board of Directors, and in the Offices of Treasurer & Corresponding Secretary. He laid before the Institute the statement and vouchers of the late Treasurer, J. W. Brooks, from which he learned, that there had been paid to Mr. Brooks about $476.00
Out of which had been drawn 122.50
Leaving a balance of cash of $353.50

That the accounts and vouchers of Mr. Brooks together with the above balance of cash was held

by him subject to the Order of the Board of Directors, or until a Treasurer shall be duly elected and qualified in accordance with Article 7. Section 5. of the Constitution.

The President then declared the first business in order was the election of one Director to supply the vacancy occasioned by the removal from the State of S. C. Bugbee, a Corresponding Secretary to supply the place of Wm. M. Laroche, and a Treasurer in place of J. W. Brooks both of whom had left the State, and whose Offices were therefore vacant according to Article 7. Section 10. of the Constitution.

Whereupon Mr. Sime moved to go into an election of the Officers named and the appointment of tellers. Which motion prevailing, the Chair appointed as tellers Messrs R. R. Williams and C. A. Gough.

On motion of Mr. Sime it was voted to go into an election of a Director. Whereupon a ballot being had, H. B. Williams was declared duly elected a Director to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of S. C. Bugbee from the State.

H. B. Williams was nominated for and unanimously elected Corresponding Secretary in place of Wm. M. Laroche removed from the State, and whose resignation had been tendered through Mr Brooks. Mr. Elliott moved to go into an election of Treasurer to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of J. W. Brooks from the State, which motion prevailing Mr. C. A. Gough was nominated for and duly elected Treasurer of the Mechanics Institute for the balance of the term.

Mr. S. A. Williams from the Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts, made a general Statement of the financial condition

of the Institute. From the cursory examination which the Committee had been able to make of the accounts of the late Treasurer, they were thought to be correct, that no money had been paid out except by order of the Board of Directors, and the vouchers were satisfactory. That the amount of funds then in the hands of the President with whom it had been left by the late Treasurer, was $353.50

The Amt. received from payment of first installment of stock subscribed. $476.00

From which had been paid out by Order of the Board 122.50

Leaving a balance as above of $353.50.

That for the reason that there had not been made any effort to procure additional subscribers to the stock of the Institute, or to make collections from those who have already become Subscribers, the treasury as shown above, though not empty, was not as rich as could be desired, and that the Committee had it in contemplation to submit to the Board of Directors, at an early day, a plan, by which to add largely to the membership, and insure the more certain and speedy collection of moneys due the Institute.

On motion the report was accepted.

Mr. Coffman, from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, stated the Committee had leased from Saml. Brannan, Room No. 10. 4th Story of the "Express Building" at the Corner of California and Montgomery Streets, for which the Institute would pay $25. per month. The Room would soon be fitted up, in a manner suited to the present condition of the Treasury, and with such furniture as might for the time be thought necessary to meet our wants for some months to come.

On motion the report of the Committee was accepted.

Mr. Elliot from the Committee on Books and Donations, stated that some presents of valuable books had been made to the Institute, since its organization, and a beautiful Seal ~~designed~~ by Mr. Thomas Boyd, Architect, and finished by Mr. J. W. Tucker, had also been donated.

From D. C. Bugbee there was received the following books. "Holy Bible". "Loudon's Encyclopaedia of Cottage, Farm and Villa Architecture" and "Curtis's Conveyancer".

From A. A. Allen. one copy of "Compendium of the Census of the U. S. for 1850." and "Exploration of the Valley of the ~~Amazon~~" by Lieut. Gibbon U. S. N.

From the Hon. J. A. McDougall the following have been received, viz.

10 volumes of Congressional Globe
7 do Hamilton's papers.
4 do Jefferson "
4 do Schoolcraft's Indian Tribes.
2. do "Message & Documents" part 1 & 2. 1854–5
2 do U. S. Fiscal Department
1 do Constitution of U. S. with notes.
2. do Valley of the Amazon parts 1. & 2. maps with
1 do Patent Office Report 1853.
1. do Compendium of Census. U. S. 1850.

As shown by the above Statement there had been donated to the Institute since its organization forty four volumes, many of them are works of great value, and the Committee hoped to announce, at the next meeting the receipt of many more.

On motion the report of the Committee on Books and Donations, made through its chairman, was accepted.

On motion of R. R. Williams it was voted that the thanks of the Institute, be communicated to the Hon. James A. McDougall for his valuable donation.

The President stated that there

had been a Committee on Lectures appointed by the Board of Directors whose duty it was made, to engage suitable persons to deliver lectures before, and for the benefit of the Institute, but that up to the present time, owing to circumstances well understood by the membership, no lecture had yet been announced.

There being no further business before the Institute, on Motion of Mr. Ballentine the meeting was adjourned to the first Wednesday in August, to the Hall of the Institute, at 8. O'Clock P. M.

T. B. Leyton Rec. Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
San Francisco, Tuesday, July 10th 1855.

The Board met this evening pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and all the Directors as follows, viz. Messrs. Ballentine, Cofran, Cook, Elliott, Macredy and S. H. Williams.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Cofran introduced to the Board Mr. R. R. Williams, whose certificate of election set forth, that at a stated meeting of the Institute held in the Superior Court Room on the evening of July 2nd, he had been duly elected a Director of The Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, to fill the vacancy in the Board occasioned by the removal from the State of S. C. Bughee.

The President welcomed Mr. R. R. Williams as a member of the Board and invited him to participate in its proceedings. The Chair appointed him to the Committee on Books and Donations.

Messrs C. A. Gough, and A. B. Williams presented certificates from the Secretary of the Institute, which in like manner set forth that they had been duly elected, at the meeting of the Institute stated above, to the offices of Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary respectively, and were invited to be present at the meetings of the Board.

Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, stated that from the hasty examination the Committee had been able to make of the accounts and vouchers of the late Treasurer, which papers had been left by him, prior to his departure from the City, in the hands of the President, they believed them to be correct, and that the duties of Treasurer had been faithfully performed.

From the papers which had been sub-

mitted to the Committee, it was found that there had been received by the Treasurer from former officers of the Institute about $476.00
Amount disbursed by order of the Board of Directors 122.50
Leaving in the Treasury a Balance of $353.50

It was further stated the Cash and accounts, named were in the hands of the President by direction of the Committee, and that they would be surrendered to the present Treasurer on the filing of his bond as required by Article 7. Section 8. of the Constitution.

On motion the Report of the Committee was accepted.

Mr. Gough submitted his bond (in Blank) for the Consideration of the Board, which, after having been read, it was ordered, that the Blank be filled with the sum of three Thousand Dollars, and the names of his sureties be referred for approval, to the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, and that they report at the next meeting of the Board.

Mr. Cofran from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, remarked that the Committee had made a Statement to the Institute at its late meeting, and it was thought proper that he should now repeat to the Board, that the Committee had leased from Samuel Brannan Room No. 10. in the 4th Story of the "Express Building", at $25.00 per Month. In fitting up the Room the Committee had ordered such articles only as were deemed absolutely necessary for the convenient meetings of the Institute and its Directory, and that the several Bills for Carpet, Chairs &c. had been placed in the hands of the Committee on Accounts for examination and approval, and would be called up in the course of the evening for the action of the Board. Mr Cofran further remarked that a member of the Board had prof-

fered to furnish a table suitable for a reading room, and that it would probably be placed in this Hall, by the next meeting of the Board.

On motion the report of the Committee was accepted.

Mr. Elliott from the Committee on Books and Donations, reported that some valuable books to the number of thirty nine volumes had been donated to the Institute by the Hon. J. A. McDougall, and that as this was the first of (he hoped) a long list of similar donations to this association he should move the adoption of the following resolution,

Resolved that the thanks of the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco be tendered to the Hon. J. A. McDougall, for his munificent donation of valuable books, and that the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to communicate to him their high appreciation of his liberality.

Resolved. That the Cor. Sec. be instructed to furnish a gilt frame for the lithograph likeness of this early patron of the Institute, and cause the same to be placed in the Reading Room.

On motion it was unanimously voted that the above resolutions be adopted.

Mr. Elliott further stated, that the Committee had thought to recommend to the Board the importance of establishing in this Hall, a Reading Room, wherein the members could at all times find some of the most desirable periodicals of the day, and that he thought it would awaken a more lively interest in the success of the institution. The Committee thought that it would soon become necessary to provide a Book Case for the safe keeping of, and to secure from injury, the works which already belong to the Institute.

On motion the report of the Committee was accepted.

The Committee of Ways & Means and Accounts, to whom had been referred for examination and approval, several Bills against the Institute, reported through its Chairman the following bills as correct, and moved that an order for the amount be drawn on the Treasury for the payment thereof. The motion was carried.

S. Webb.	Inkstand and Sundries -	(No. 8.)	$2.75
J. Lincella	Candlesticks	(No. 9.)	2.00
B. Soule	Advertising	(No. 10.)	18.50
G. Whalley	Mfg Spittoons	(No. 11.)	8.00
S. Brannan	Rent of Hall	(No. 12.)	25.00
Frank Baker.	Carpet &c for Hall	(No. 13).	54.44
			$110.69

Mr. S. H. Williams suggested to the Board that some person should be employed, and adequate compensation be allowed him, to collect money due on subscriptions, to stack &c and stated that as the By laws made it the duty of the Librarian to make collections &c this labor properly belonged to him. But as the Institute was ~~at present~~ too poor in Books and funds to authorize, at present, the employment of the Librarian already appointed, at a salary or wages that would justify his abandonment of any other business, to attend to this, he would like to hear the views of other members of the Board in reference to this matter

Mr. Elliott said the services of Secretary could not be dispensed with, and suggested that an arrangement might probably be made by which the Secretary could discharge the duties of librarian in addition to other service required of him.

On motion it was made the duty of the Secretary to call upon Mr. Root and learn from him whether he was now ready to enter upon his duty as Librarian without reference to Salary.

The circular letter prepared by the Secretary, by direction of the Board, was referred to the Corresponding Secretary for adoption or amendment as he might deem necessary, with instructions to have

printed as many Copies as the wants of the Institute might require.

The following is the form of Circular prepared by the Recording Secretary.

Hall of the
Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco
San Francisco — — — 185—

Mr. —
Sir,

"At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, held at their Rooms on Tuesday evening June 21st it was, by unanimous vote of the Board, made the duty of the Secretary to inclose to the Officers of Kindred Associations, and to gentlemen of known liberality copies of the Constitution and Bylaws, and advise them of its successful organization, and permanent establishment.

To those who have experienced the advantages, and can, therefore, duly appreciate the value of such Institutions, it can scarcely be deemed necessary to argue its general usefulness. But to Mechanics of San Francisco, who are here from every State of the American Union, and most European States, widely separated from the wholsome influences of home, with but few places of innocent amusement to which to resort, such an Association had become almost a necessity.

The Objects and purposes of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco are fully set forth in its Constitution and Bylaws, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, and believing they are such as to commend themselves to the intelligent, the liberal and the good, we solicit such Contributions of Books, Scientific Apparatus and Works of Art, as you may have the will and the ability to bestow."

There being no further business before the Board, it was on motion adjourned to Tuesday Evening next at 8 O'Clock P. M.

W B Dexter Secretary

Hall of the Institute.
Tuesday Evening July 17th 1855.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment, being a special meeting for the transaction of general business.

Present the President and vice President, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, and the following Directors, viz- Messrs. R. R. Williams, Cook, Ballentine, Elliott and S. H. Williams.

A quorum being present the Board was called to order by the President.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees being called for, Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, to whom the matter had been referred at the last regular meeting of the Board, Reported, that the Committee had examined the Bond of the Treasurer, and found it drawn up in proper form, the blank filled with the sum ordered by the directory, three thousand dollars, and the names of the sureties were, in the opinion of the Committee good and sufficient, and recommended therefore that it be accepted, which upon motion being made by Mr. Elliott the recommendation was adopted, and the bond ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Treasurer's Bond.

Know all men by these presents, that we, Charles H. Gough, Roderick Matheson, and Thomas Hayes, all of the City and County of San Francisco and State of California, are held and firmly bound unto Gardner Elliott, George Cofran, Stephen H. Williams, James Ballentine, John J. Macready, Eli Cook and R. R. Williams, of the same place, the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, in the full and just sum of three thousand dollars, to be paid to the aforesaid Board of Directors their Successors or assigns - to which payment

well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators and every of them firmly, jointly and severally by these presents - Sealed with our Seals, Dated this Eleventh day of July A. D. 1855.

The Condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above bounden Charles H. Gough, his heirs, executors or administrators, or any of them, shall well and truly perform any, every and all the duties appertaining to the Office of Treasurer of said Mechanics Institute, as laid down and defined in the present Constitution and Bye-laws of said Institute, and pay out, properly disburse, and satisfactorily account for all moneys and funds that may come into his hands as Treasurer of said Institute, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of Lawrence Ryan.

Charles H. Gough (L.S.)
Roderick Matheson (L.S.)
Thomas Hayes (L.S.)

On motion of Mr. Ballentine it was ordered that the funds of the Institute, now in the hands of the President be handed over to the Treasurer, and that the Secretary prepare a receipt for the Amount thus to be paid over, to be signed by the Treasurer on taking charge of said funds.

Committee on Library Reading Room and Building. Reported progress.

Committee on Books and Donations. Reported progress.

Unfinished business was called up.

The Secretary stated, that at the last meeting of the Board, he had been instructed to call upon Mr. J. C. Root, and if possible to learn from him whether he was now ready to qualify, and enter upon his duties as Librarian, without any reference

to Salary, that he had accordingly seen and conversed with Mr. Root, but had not been able to obtain any definite answer as to his intentions in the matter. The Report was accepted.

Mr. Root appeared before the Board and stated that his bondsman was at present out of the City, and that he had therefore been prevented executing his bond as required in Article 3. Section 1. of the Byelaws, and that he was then on duty as Policeman, and asked to be excused from further attendance that evening. Whereupon he was excused.

S. A. Williams from Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, laid before the Board the following bills against the Institute which the Committee had examined and found correct. Viz-

S. Webb Copying Press,
Copying Bk, ink, &c } (No. 14) $16.00
Cerwodtpes & Letter 3.00
$19.00

Franklin Printing Office
4 Reams Circulars (No. 15.) $30.00

Frank Baker
1 Rug-$5.00 1 Mat, $1.50 (No. 16.) $6.50

Mr. Sime, stated that in order to become more generally known to the Citizens of San Francisco, to many of whom our organization was unknown, he should move that all donations to the Institute, hereafter made, be acknowledged through the City papers. Carried.

The matter of the Librarian was again brought up and after some conversation among Messrs. Cook, Elliott and Sime, the whole matter was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means & Accounts, to report at the next

meeting of the Board.

Mr. Cook moved that the Secretary get up, and have printed, a form of notice to members of the Institute, of its meetings, and that these notices so printed shall be filled up and addressed by him.

Mr. Sime moved to amend by making it the duty of the Recording, Corresponding Secretories, and Treasurer to make some arrangement with the City press, by which notices of the meetings of the Institute shall be published gratuitously, or at least so conspicuously published as not to be overlooked in a casual examination of a paper.

Mr. Elliott thought that the Institute had now become so far an object of interest to the members that the Board should order two or three of the City papers left at the Hall, to be filed, and preserved for future reference.

Mr. R. R. Williams enquired if there was not a Committee on Lecturing, whose duty it was to engage the services of competent gentlemen, to lecture before, and for the benefit of the Institute.

Mr. Sime stated that such Committee had been appointed soon after the organization of the Board, and was of the opinion that the time was now about come, when an able lecture on the history of the Mechanic Arts would prove of great advantage to the Institute.

Mr. Elliott moved that the Committee engage a lecturer and procure a suitable room, and report at the next meeting of the Board. Carried.

Some conversation among the Directors in reference to lighting the Room with gas was had, when, on motion of Mr. Cook the subject was referred to Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building.

There being no further business before the Board, it was on motion adjourned to next Tuesday evening at 8 O'clock. P. M.

(T. B. Sexton) Secretary

Hall of the Institute.
Tuesday July 24th 1855.

At the meeting appointed to be held this evening there were present the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary and the following Directors, to wit. Messrs. S. H. Williams Elliott, Cook and R. R. Williams.

There not being a constitutional quorum present, the Board adjourned to Tuesday evening next, July 31st at 8 O'Clock P. M.

F. B. Dexter

Hall of the Institute.
Tuesday July 31st 1855.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present all the Directors as follows, viz. Messrs. S. H. Williams, Ballentine, Cofran, Cook, Elliott, Macredy and R. R. Williams.

Both the President and Vice President being absent, the meeting was called to order by the Secretary, whereupon, on motion of Mr. Ballentine Mr. Elliott was appointed Chairman pro tem.

The minutes of the meeting of July 17th were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees were called for.

Whereupon Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts laid before the Board several bills, which the Committee had examined and found correct, viz.

G. O. Whitney & Co's Bill for Chairs &c	(No. 17.)	$37.50

E. S. Spear's Bill for Settees	(No. 18.)	$15.00
Sam. Brannan " " Rent	(" 19.)	25.00

Mr. Williams stated that the Bills, Nos 14. 15. and 16. which at the last meeting of the Board the Committee had reported as correct, had not been ordered paid, through some oversight, and they would now recommend that they, together with those just submitted, amounting in the aggregate to $133.00 be paid in full.

At this stage of the proceedings Mr. Sime the Vice President came into the room and was requested by the Chairman to take his seat as President of the Board.

On motion of Mr. R. R. Williams the following Bills were taken up singly, and read. viz.

S. Webb for Copying Press, Book, Ink, &c	(No. 14.)	$19.00
Franklin Printing Office, for 4 Reams Circulars &c	(No. 15.)	30.00
Frank Baker. Rug and Mat	(No. 16.)	6.50
G. O. Whitney & Co for 1½ Doz. Chairs	(No. 17.)	37.50
E. S. Spear. for Settees	(No. 18.)	15.00
Sam. Brannan " Rent of Hall for Aug.	(No. 19.)	25.00
Amounting to		$133.00

Whereupon on motion of Mr. Cook it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the amount of the several bills just read.

Mr. S. H. Williams further stated that the Herald printing Office had presented several bills for Advertising done for the Institute, of whose correctness the Committee entertained some doubt, and asked for further time.

On motion of R. R. Williams the bills from the Herald Office were referred back to same Committee to ascertain their correctness, and report at the next meeting of the Board.

Mr. Cofran from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, stated that the Committee had ordered two settees for their present Hall, which, with the Chairs ordered before, the Committee thought would seat as many of the mem

bers as would probably attend the meetings of the Institute. In reference to the practicability of lighting the room with gas, which matter had been referred to the Committee at the former meeting of the Board, he had made enquiries of members of the Gas Company as to the probable expense of bringing it into that part of the building occupied by the Institute, and from information received, the Committee were of the opinion that, for the present, to introduce that kind of light was wholly impracticable, because too expensive.

On motion the report was accepted.

Committee on Books and Donations, Reported progress.

Mr. Sime, the Vice President, from the Committee on Lectures, stated that he had had conversations with one or two gentlemen of ability and fair attainments, in reference to public lectures to be given before, and for the benefit of the Institute, and that Col. Baker, one of the gentlemen spoken of, only required notice of a few days to be given him, for preparation, when he would place himself at the service of the Institute.

The report was accepted and the Committee Continued.

The matter of the Librarian was taken up, & after some Conversation among the several members of the Board, the Recording Sec. was appointed Librarian pro. tem. and instructed to file his bond. There being no further business before the Board, they adjourned to Tuesday evening August the 14th at 8 O'Clock P. M.

T B Dexter Sec.

Hall. August 14th 1855.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President and the following Directors, Viz. Messrs. R. R. Williams, Elliott, Macredy and D. H. Williams.

A quorum not being present the Board adjourned to Tuesday evening next at 7½ O'clock P. M.

T B Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday evening August 21st 1855.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the Vice President and the following Directors, Viz. Messrs R. R. Williams, Cofran, Cook, Elliott, Ballentine, Macredy and D. H. Williams.

The Board was Called to order by the Vice President.

The minutes of previous meeting were read, amended, and approved. The President, Mr. Sime, wished the minutes of the proceedings of the last meeting to be so amended as to represent Col. Baker as having been absent from the City for three or four weeks, that he was still absent, and that on his return, which might be expected in about a week, some understanding would be had with him in reference to a public lecture.

Mr. D. H. Williams, thought that portion of the minutes which represented the Committee of Ways & Means and Accounts

as calling in question the correctness of the account from the Herald Office for advertising done for the Institute, should be so amended as to represent the Committee as asking for time to make some enquiries in reference to said account, of the late President, under whose administration the printing had been done. The corrections above named were ordered to be made.

Reports from the Standing Committees were called for.

Mr. S. H. Williams from Committee of Ways & Means and Accounts, to whom the Bond of the Librarian pro tem. had been referred, reported that the Committee had examined the Bond, had found it drawn up in proper form, and the surety deemed sufficient, and they therefore moved that it be accepted. Which motion was carried.

The Committee through its Chairman asked for further time on the account from the Herald office, which was granted.

Mr. Cofran from Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, stated that a proposition had been made to the Board through him, to give up the Room they now occupied, to another party, that the party so applying had agreed to keep the carpet, paying the cost thereof, &c. that another Room could be had in the third story of a building a few doors from this, and the Committee asked for instructions from the Board.

After some conversation among the Directors the matter was left with the Committee, to report further at the next meeting.

Mr. Cofran also stated that a member of the Institute had some time before volunteered to make for, and present to the Institute a table suited to a

Reading Room, and that the Committee hoped it would be completed on or before the next monthly meeting.

The Committee on Books and Donations reported progress.

Some conversation, in which all the Directors participated, was had in reference to an enlargement of the Library, and the establishment of a Reading Room. It was urged that something must be done to make it an object of interest to subscribers. That with only two or three hundred volumes in the Library, and some of the approved periodicals of the day upon the tables, the members would begin to take an active interest in it, would attend its meetings, and aid in making it an institution to be proud of.

It was proposed to submit questions to be debated by the members, at such times as the Board of Directors might appoint, and under such regulations as might be deemed most likely to attain the object sought to be accomplished. It was proposed to invest the small amount of funds in the hands of the treasurer to the purchase of Books, &c. and thus lay the foundation of a library. The Librarian was instructed to proceed with the collection of the first instalment of ten per cent, from delinquent subscribers, & to get signatures to the Constitution and Bylaws.

It was also proposed to place a subscription list in the hands of each of the Directors and Officers of the Institute, who should solicit, and if possible obtain new subscribers, thus enlargeing the membership, the assessments from whom would not only defray all the necessary expenses of the Institute, but would leave a surplus which might be applied to the establishment and maintenance

of a Reading Room.

The matter of making suitable Compensation to Librarian was referred to the Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts.

On motion the Secretary was instructed to procure printed notices of the stated meetings of the ~~Institute~~, to be served upon the members, in order to secure a full attendance at the stated monthly meetings.

It was ordered that the Bond of the Librarian pro tem be spread upon the minutes

Copy of Secretary's Bond, as Librarian pro tem.

"Know all men by these presents, that we Peter B. Dexter and Franklin Williams, both of the City and County of San Francisco, and State of California, are held and firmly bound unto Gardner Elliott, George Coffran, Stephen H. Williams, James Ballentine, John F. Macredy, and R. B. Williams, of the same place, the Board of Directors of "the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco," in the full and just sum of One Thousand Dollars, to be paid to the aforesaid Board of Directors, their successors or assigns – to which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves, and each of us by himself, for and in the whole, – and the heirs, executors and administrators of all and each of us firmly by these presents – Sealed with our Seals. Dated this fourteenth day of August A. D. 1855 –

The conditions of the above obligation is such, that if the above bounden Peter B. Dexter, his heirs executors and administrators, or any of them, shall well and truly perform, any, every, and all the duties appertaining to the office of Librarian of said Mechanics Institute, as laid down and defined in the present Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and regulations of said Institute, and satisfactorily account for all moneys, Books, and other things

the property of said Institute, that may come into his hands as Librarian aforesaid, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered
in presence of } P. B. Dexter (Seal)
Michael Sherman } Franklin Williams (Seal)

There being no further business before the Board it adjourned to Tuesday evening August the 28th at 8. O'clock. P. M.

P. B. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday Evening August 28th 1855.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the following Directors, Messrs Ballentine, S. H. Williams, Elliott, Cook & R. R. Williams.

In the absence of the President and Vice President, the Board was called to order by the Secretary; whereupon, on motion Mr. R. R. Williams was appointed President pro tem.

The minutes of the proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee on Ways & Means & Accounts, reported, that the Committee had had under consideration the subject of Compensation to the Secretary for services rendered to the Institute, which had been referred to them at a former meeting of the Board, and that they recommended the payment to him of One hundred and twenty five Dollars, to be collected by him from subscribers to the Institute, and that the same be considered payment in full for services up to September the first. Whereupon on motion the report of the Committee was accepted, and its recommendation adopted.

The Committee on Library Reading Room & Building reported progress.

In answer to a remark by Mr. Ballentine Mr. Elliott stated that the table designed for the Reading Room was in a state of forwardness and would be finished at an early day.

Mr R. R. Williams from the Committee on Books and Donations, presented to the Board, two volumes which had been donated to the Institute by a Lady, Miss Sarah P. Warren.

On motion it was voted that

the president pro tem. convey to the lady the thanks of the Board for the Contribution which she had made to the Library.

On motion the Secretary was instructed to draw up Subscription lists to be placed in the hands of the Directors, and the several officers of the Institute, in order to obtain many more subscribers to its stock.

It was moved and carried that for considerable Donations hereafter made, the names of the donors shall be published provided it can be done gratuitously.

The matter relating to Book Case as proposed by Mr. Derbyshire, was thought favorably of, and was referred to the Committee on Reading Room &c.

There being no further business before the Board, it was on motion adjourned to to the second tuesday in September.

F. B. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Tuesday evening Sept. 11th 1855.

The Board of Directors met this evening pursuant to adjournment.

Present the Vice President and the following Directors, Viz. Messrs S. H. Williams, R. R. Williams, Ballentine, Cook, Elliott, and Macredy.

The minutes of the proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts, stated that in order to raise a sum for the purchase of books for the library, the Committee had thought it advisable to recommend ~~to recommend~~ to the Board to Call in the quarterly assessment as laid down in Section 1st Article 3rd of the Constitution to commence on the first of the present month.

And believing that not many more of the original Subscribers to the Stock of the Institute would pay the first installment of ten per cent the Committee would recommend also that the payment of the 2nd installment be ordered.

These measures the Committee had thought proper to submit to the Consideration of the Board because of the necessity existing for the speedy enlargement of the Library, which could not be done without money, and the Treasury was well nigh empty, and because some provision should be made for the payment to the Secretary and Librarian of some compensation for his services.

Whereupon the motion to Call in the second installment of ten per cent of the stock subscribed was Carried.

A motion was then made to order the payment of the quarterly assessment of one Dollar per month, which motion was lost.

It was then ordered that the Librarian pro tem proceed to the Collection of the 2nd installment on Shares of stock subscribed.

Committee on Library Reading Room and Building. No report.

Committee on Books & Donations. No Report.

Mr. Sime from Committee on Lectures, stated, that from the continued absence ~~from~~ of Col. Baker from the City, by reason of Sickness, the Committee was unable to name ~~within~~ the time when, or the place where, the first lecture for the benefit of the Institute should be given. Further time was granted the Committee.

The following letter from the President tendering his resignation of the Office of President of the Institute was read, and ordered spread upon the minutes.

San Francisco September 11th 1855.

To the Board of Directors of the Mechanics' Institute of the City of San Francisco.

Gentlemen,

After an absence of ~~over five years~~, circumstances render it necessary that I should visit my family, and I contemplate leaving this City on the 20th Proximo.

I therefore avail myself of this opportunity of tendering to you, most respectfully, my resignation as President of the Institute, At the same time permit me to express my warmest gratitude for the constant courtesy and kindness you have always manifested towards me.

Sincerely wishing that future success which the Institution so richly merits— and hoping that my visit to Philadelphia may enable me to promote its future prosperity—

I remain Gent. your obt. Sert.
Benjamin Haywood."

On motion the resignation of Mr. Haywood was accepted, and the Secretary was instructed to express to him the thanks of the Board for his courtesy towards the Directors and other officers of the Institute and to request him to solicit donations for the Library, Reading Room, and Cabinet during his stay in the Atlantic Cities.

Mr. R. R. Williams moved that the sum of fifty Dollars from the funds now in the hands of the Treasurer be appropriated for the purchase of Books for the Library, which motion, after some Conversation among the Directors, as to what Committee the business of purchasing books and other articles for the Library, the Reading Room, and Cabinet properly belonged, was lost.

Whereupon Mr. Cook offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That to the Committee on Books and Donations properly belongs the duty to make purchases for the Library - Reading Room and Cabinet, and that the Secretary prepare a By-law defining the duties of that Committee, as such a Section has been omitted in the present Constitution and Bylaws of the Institute.

There being no further business before the Board it was on motion adjourned to Tuesday evening September the 25th at 7½ O'Clock. P. M.

T. B. Dryden Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Wednesday evening Sept. 5th 1855.

This being the night of meeting of the Institute as provided in Article 8th Section 3rd of the Constitution, and there not being a quorum of the members present the meeting adjourned to Wednesday evening next, Sept. 12th at 7½ O'Clock. P. M.

T. B. Dryden Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Wednesday evening Sept. 12th 1855.

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment.

Present a quorum of members.

In the absence of the President and Vice President Mr. S. A. Williams was called to the Chair.

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Institute held at the Superior Court room on the 2nd of July last were read and approved.

Mr. Matheson enquired of the Chair what amount of money had been paid in by subscribing members, and what disposition had been made of the funds collected. He wished to know what books had been purchased for the Library and what periodicals furnished for the Reading Room. He could see only the few volumes, which through the solicitation of one or two gentlemen had been generously donated to the Institute. In fine, he, with other members of the Institute present would like to learn from some one of its officers what the Directors had accomplished during the six months past, what they had done for this association, the management of the affairs of which had been entrusted to them.

The Chairman in answer to

those enquiring stated, that the officers whose business it was to be present at this meeting, and report to it the present condition and future prospects of the Institute, were unfortunately absent, and that he as chairman of one of the Committees created by the Board of Directors, had thought of a verbal report which he hoped would be satisfactory to the members.

He had learned from the Secretary that there had been four hundred shares of Stock subscribed, — by one hundred and ninety four persons. one hundred and thirty six of whom had paid the first installment of ten per cent on two hundred and sixty nine shares of Stock.

Amount Paid on 268 shares of Stock		670.00
" " By Mr. Selby in full of one share		25.00
Total amount paid in —		$695.00
Retained by Mr. Phugas on account of Bills paid by him	51.50	
Bills ordered paid by Directors	366.19	
In the hands of the Secretary	155.95	
In the hands of the Treasurer	121.36	$695.00

In the hands of the Treasurer —		$121.36
In the hands of Secretary ~~$155.95~~	$155.95	
From this deduct for		
Compensation voted him by Directors	125.00	
Rent of Hall for Sept. Paid by him —	25.00	
Bill of Sundries	2.25	$152.25
Balance in hands of Sec.	$3.70	3.70
Total unexpended Balance		$125.06

Mr. Williams further remarked that he thought it due to the Board of Directors, to state that they had been very much embarrassed for the first three months of their term, from the want of any funds whatever wherewith to meet the

necessary current expenses of, and pay those bill against the Institute which were incurred during the progress of its organization.

It was mentioned that the President, Mr. Haywood, had tendered his resignation to the Board of Directors, and that his resignation had been accepted. Whereupon Mr. R. R. Williams called for the reading of Mr. Haywoods letter to the Board. A discussion here arose as to the power of the Board of Directors to act upon the letter of the President, as he was the President of the Institute, elected to that office by its members, and that it was the right of those who had elected him to accept or reject his application to resign.

On motion of Mr. Matheson it was ordered that an election for President of the Institute, in place of Mr. Benjamin Haywood resigned, be held on the first Wednesday in October, and that the Secretary cause notice thereof to be given to the members.

It was stated that of the One hundred and thirty six members who had paid their first installment, only eighty seven had yet signed the Constitution, and that sixty five persons who had subscribed for Stock had not yet made payment of the ten per cent required. Whereupon it was ordered that notice be given to all delinquents that unless payment be made on before the next meeting of the Institute, they will be no longer regarded as members.

Mr. Banks moved the following resolution.

Resolved, That the Board of Directors have not the right to accept the resignation of the President of the Institute.

No second being had to the resolution Mr. Matheson moved the following. viz.

Resolved, That the Board of Directors possess the right to accept the resignation of the President of the Institute.

An interesting and spirited debate here arose, on the powers and duties of the Board of Directors. When the motion being put for the adoption of the resolution it was lost.

Mr. Banks moved that the resignation of Mr. Haywood as President of the Institute be accepted, that a vote of thanks be be tendered to him for services already rendered, and that he be requested to solicit contributions for the Library, Reading Room, and Cabinet, during his stay in the Atlantic Cities, which motion was carried unanimously.

There being no further business before the Institute, it adjourned to the next stated meeting, the first Wednesday in October, at 7½ O'Clock P. M.

P. Dexter Sec.

P.S. The Secretary omitted to state in its proper place, that by vote of the Institute it was recommended to the Board of Directors that they order the payment, on the part of members, of the quarterly assessment provided for in Article 3rd Section first of the Constitution, the quarter to commence on the first day of October.

P. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday evening September 25th 1855.

The Board of Directors met this evening pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President Mr. Sime, and the following Directors, viz

Mess. S. H. Williams, Colliot, R. R. Williams, Cook, Cofran & Ballentine.

The minutes of the proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from standing Committees were called for.

Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee on Ways & Means & Accounts, was proceeding to explain the action of the members of the Institute at its meeting on the evening of the 12th Inst. when he gave way to R. R. Williams, who called for the reading of the minutes of the proceedings of that meeting.

This Call, the President ruled out of order, for the reason that he regarded that meeting as unconstitutional, having been called at an unusual day, and without the proper authority. That meeting purported to be an adjourned meeting from the regular stated time provided in Article 8. Section 3rd of the Constitution, that the two or three members who were present at that time could only adjourn to the next stated night of meeting, as they had no authority to fix on any night not known to the Constitution.

After some conversation among the Directors Mr. R. R. Williams withdrew his Call for the reading of the minutes of the meeting of the Institute.

The Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, No Report.

The Committee on Books & Donations through its Chairman, Mr. Elliott, presented to the Board a copy of the "Annals of San Francisco," obtained from Mr. Thomas O. Larkin, through the Corresponding Secretary.

Mr. Cofran moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to Mr. Thomas O. Larkin, Gen. J. A. McDougall and Doctor Wm. M. Gwinn. Carried

Mr. Elliott stated that the Committee had to acknowledge the receipt of Six Volumes of public Documents from Mr. Gwinn, two Volumes from Mr. J. B. Weller, and some few Volumes from the Corresponding Secretary, Mr. H. D. Williams.

Whereupon Mr. Cofran moved that the thanks of the Board be communicated to the above named gentlemen. The motion was unanimously adopted.

The President, as Committee on Lectures, stated that Col. Baker would be prepared to give a lecture on or about the 10th of the coming month, and suggested to the Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building, that some step should be taken to procure a suitable room for the purpose. It had been suggested to him that possibly the trustees of the Unitarian Church would allow the use of it to the Institute on that occasion, gratuitously. That Musical Hall could be doubtless ~~to~~ had, but that it would have to be paid for at a high rate. He commended the matter to the attention and early action of the Committee.

The resolution, drawn up by the Secretary, defining the duty of the Committee on Books and Donations, ordered at the last meeting of the Board, was taken up and adopted. The following is the resolution, and which is to be regarded as Section 4th Article 2nd of the Bylaws.

Resolved. That it shall be the duty of the Committee on Books and Donations, to examine and report upon suitable Books for the

Library, and books of Art, and other things for the Cabinet; to acquire these by purchase; to solicit and accept donations of Books and other articles applicable to the Library, Reading Room and Cabinet; to recommend from time to time, (when the finances will ~~permit~~ warrant,) the purchase of new works, and to take into consideration such matters as shall be referred to it by the Board.

Mr. D. H. Williams as Chairman of the Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts, recommended that Mr. Hayes be allowed as Secretary and Librarian a Salary of One hundred and Twenty five Dollars per month commencing on the first of the present month. ~~On motion said recommendation was adopted. as Secretary and Librarian.~~ On motion said recommendation was adopted.

Mr. R. R. Williams enquired of the president whether in his opinion the Board of Directors possessed the power to order an election for president, in place of one resigned, as in the present case call for an election, inasmuch as the Chair had ruled that the meeting of the Institute held on the 12th was illegally called, and any order from that meeting could not be regarded as lawful.

The President replied, that if the Director wished to know by what authority a notice for the election of President, on the first Wednesday of the coming month, had been given to members, he would state, that as President of the Institute he had directed the Secretary to give such notice, as was clearly his duty, as set forth in the 6th Article of the Constitution.

Mr. Elliott said that it had been suggested that only two or three copies of the Constitution and Bylaws remained - and that many of them were wanted not only for distribution here in the City, but also for circulation in the Atlantic states. He therefore moved that the Secretary contract for having printed one thousand copies

Before the motion was put, Mr. S. A. Williams wished that the matter might be deferred for one month, as the Treasury was at the present time very poor, but after some conversation among the Directors, withdrew his motion for delay. Whereupon Mr. Elliotts motion to print prevailed.

The letter and resolutions drawn by the Secretary, and presented to Mr. Benjamin Haywood, late president, as coming from the Board of Directors - were by request spread upon the minutes, and are as follows.

Hall of the
Mechanics' Institute of the City of San Francisco
September 12th 1855

Benjamin Haywood Esq.
Dear Sir,

While I take great pleasure in making known to you the sentiments of respect and esteem entertained for yourself by the Board of Directors, as shown in the resolutions which follow, I at the same time cannot but regret the occasion which has called this expression of them forth.

On reading to the Directory at its session last evening, your letter to them tendering your resignation, the following resolution, were offered and unanimously adopted, and your communication ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Resolved, That the Board of Directors accept with great reluctance, the resignation of Mr. Benjamin Haywood as President of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, conscious that the Institute will thereby lose a faithful and efficient presiding Officer, and the Directory a safe and reliable Counsellor

Resolved, That the thanks of the Board be unanimously tendered to Mr. Haywood for the uniform courtesy which has marked his intercourse with the Directors and other Officers and members of the Institute, and for the zeal he has manifested in recommending and urging the adoption of those measures best calculated to promote its interests, and enlarge the field of its usefulness.

Resolved, That the Board of Directors availing themselves of the occasion of Mr. Haywood's contemplated visit to the Atlantic Cities, and believing that he can, while there, render great service to the Institute, do hereby request him to solicit and authorize him to receive contributions of Books, Works of Art, and other Articles suitable for the Library, Reading Room, or Cabinet.

Resolved. That the Secretary be instructed to communicate to Mr. Haywood the foregoing resolutions.

Seal of Institute

C. T. Dexter Sec.

We, the undersigned, Citizens of San Francisco, having long and favorably known Mr. Benjamin Haywood as one of the most energetic, honest and upright business men in our midst, and having learned that he has it in contemplation to visit the Atlantic states, and while there to solicit contributions for the Mechanics' Institute of this city - a most praiseworthy institution - and deserving the patronage of kindred associations, of the Publishing houses, and liberal men of the Eastern Cities - do unhesitatingly vouch for him as every way worthy of the trust confided to him, assuring all, that any donations, as above, entrusted to him will be faithfully accounted for to the Institute here.

James Van Ness Mayor
C. K. Garrison Ex Mayor
S. P. Webb " "
C. J. Brenham " "
Drexel Sutton Church, Banker
Sanders & Brenham "
Lucas, Turner & Co "
Wm. T. Sherman "

There being no further business before it on motion of R. R. Williams the Board adjourned to the 2nd Tuesday in October at 7½ O'Clock P. M.

T. B. Dexter, Secy.

Hall of the Institute.
Wednesday Evening October 3rd 1855.

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President pro tempore, and a quorum of the members.

The Secretary was proceeding to read the minutes of the last meeting, when he was interrupted by the President, who ruled that the meeting of the 12th though called by the sanction of the Board of Directors, was an illegal, held at an unusual time, without the authority of the President and therefore any business transacted by members then present was void. From this decision an appeal was taken by Mr. Matheson, seconded by Mr. S. A. Williams, when, after some attempt at explanation the decision of the Chair was sustained.

Reports from Standing Committees being called for, Mr. S. A. Williams from the Committee of Ways & Means & Accounts, submitted the following, which was ordered on file.

Whole number of Shares of Stock taken, 401 by 205 persons.

Payment of ten per Cent has been made on 269 shares by 136 Shareholders.

Amounting to		$672.50
One Share of Stock paid in full		25.00
Total Amt. Received		$697.50
Of this sum there had been disbursed by Order of the Board of Directors	$366.19	
Bills paid by the Secretary approved by the Board	152.25	
This sum in the hands of Treasurer	121.36	
" " " Librarian	6.20	
This sum retained by Mr Glynes on account of Bills paid by him	51.50	$697.50

The following are the Bills which have been approved and ordered to be paid, by the Board, to wit—

Mess. Hanna Ros Bill for Printing 1000 Blank receipts	$12.00
E. G. Hall's Bill for 2 Blank Books	11.00
Alta California's Bill for Advertising	9.00
Mess. G. W. Murray's Bill for Receipt Book	1.50
Printing 500 Copies Constitution and Byelaws	75.00
Mr. Heard for services in preparing the Chamber of Board of Aldermen for meetings of the Institute	10.00
Evening News for Advertising	4.00
S. Webb for Stationery	2.75
J. Ginella for Candlesticks	2.00
B. Joule Ros. for Advertising	18.50
E. Whalley Ros for Spittoons	8.00
S. Brannan Rent of Hall for July	25.00
Frank Baker Carpet for Hall	54.44
S. Webb Copying Book & Press &c	19.00
B. 4 Reams of Circulars	50.00
B. Baker Rug & Mat	6.50
G. O. Whiting 1½ Doz Office Chairs	37.50
E. S. Spear 2 Settees	15.00
S. Brannan Rent for August	25.00 $366.19

To the above add the following—

This sum voted to the Secretary for Services to September 1st	$125.00	
Rent for September, of Hall Paid by the Secretary	25.00	
To Sundries, Candles, Paper &c	2.25	152.25
Total Amt of Disbursements by the Board—		$518.44
In the Treasurer's hands		121.36
Retained by Mr. Gluyas		51.50
In the hands of the Librarian		6.20
		$697.50

The Chairman recommended to the consider-

ation of the Institute, the propriety of ordering the payment of assessments as provided for in Section 1st Article 3d of the Constitution.

There are Sixty Eight delinquent ~~sub~~ subscribers representing 131 Shares of Stock, from many of whom payment cannot be expected.

Mr. Cofran from the Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building, submitted the following report which on motion was received—

The present Hall is rented from Mr. Brannan at $25. per Month, and has been in possession of the Institute since the 1st of July.

The expenses of fitting up the room, aside from the Book Case, amounts to the following—

For Carpet, Rug & Mat	$60.94
Candlesticks & Spittoons	10.00
1½ doz. Office Chairs	37.50
2 Settees	15.00
	$123.44
To this may be added 3 months Rent	75.00
Amounting for Rent & furniture	$198.44

The Committee took this occasion to acknowledge the presentation to the Institute of the fine table now in the Room — from Mr. Elliott, for which, the Board of Directors had voted him the thanks of the Institute.

Mr Cofran further stated that the Committee were at the time negotiating for a suitable Hall or building — for the purpose of holding a Lecture &c &c.

Mr. Elliott from the Committee on Books & Donations, submitted the following which was received, and ordered on the minutes—

There had been Seventy five Volumes of ~~Books~~ Books received into the Library, contributed by the following persons—

From Mr. S. C. Rugbee there had been received, Loudon's Encyclopedia of Villa, Farm & Architecture

One Copy of Holy Bible & Curtis' Conveyancer,
making from Mr. Hughes 3. Volumes.
From Charles A. Miller, by Mr. I. C. Root. 2 "
Gen. J. A. McDougall, through Mr. R. Matheson had
Contributed as follows (44 Volumes
The Works of Alexander Hamilton in 7 Volumes
Congressional Globe in 12 "
The Works of T. Jefferson in 9 "
U. S. Fiscal Department in 2 "
Message & Documents 1854-5 in 2 "
Valley of the Amazon in (with Maps) 2 "
Patent Office Report for 1854. in 2 "
Constitution of U. S. with Analysis in 1 "
Compendium of Census of U. S. for 1850. 1 "
Schoolcraft's Indian tribes of the U. S. 4 "
Smithsonian Institute Report. 1854 1 "
Patent Office Report for 1853. 1 "
Making in the aggregate received from ~~J. A. McDougall~~ Gen
J. A. McDougall. 44 Volumes.
From Mr. Wm. M. Grimm were received
Message & Documents, parts 1. & 2. with Maps 3. Vol
Compendium of Census of U. S. for 1850 1 "
Patent Office Report for 1854 1 "
Statistics of the U. S. for 1850 1 "
Received from Mr. Grimm 6 "
From Miss Sarah P. Warren, through R. R. Williams
Spiritualism by Judge Edmonds. 2nd Volume
Channing Works 2nd "
Received from Thomas O.
Larkin. Annals of San Francisco. 1. Vol
Received from J. B. Weller
Congressional Globe & Appendix 2. Vol
Received from A. P. Williams.
Niebuhr's Rome in 2 Vol.
Tables of the Commerce & Navigation of U. S. 1 "
Patent Office Report for 1848 1 "
" " " " 1851 1 "
Message & Accompanying Documents 1852-3 part 1st 1 "

Message & Accompanying documents 1851-2 - part 3rd 1 vol
State papers 1815 1 "
Infantry Tactics 1 "
Colonial & State laws in reference to Indiana 1 "
Emory's notes in 1846-47 - much torn 1 "
Abert's Report of examination of New Mexico 1846-47. 1 "
Abstract of Census of U. S. for 1850 - 1 "
Miscellaneous Odd volumes 2 "
From Mr. Williams 15 "
Whole number received Seventy five volumes.

Mr. C. A. Gough. Treasurer of the Institute submitted the following Statement which was read and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Mr. Gough stated that he had qualified as Treasurer of the Institute about the 23rd day of July at which time he had received from the President Mr. Haywood $254.36. What moneys had been disbursed before he came into office, he was not prepared to state, he could only make known what bills he had paid since he had been treasurer. The following is his statement.

Mechanics Institute in Account with
Charles A. Gough Treasurer -

Receipts -

~~July 23~~
July 23 - By Cash $254.36

Disbursements

August 1st Paid Franklin printing Office per voucher $30.00
" G. O. Whitney furniture " " 37.50
" Frank Baker " " 6.00
" E. S. Spear (setters) " " 15.00
" Sam. Brannan Rent " " 25.00
" S. Webb. Copy Press &c " " 19.00 133.00
Balance in hands of treasurer $121.36

The President stated to the members that the services of an eminent man had been engaged to give the opening lecture before the Institute, and that he hoped soon to be able to designate the night when, and the Hall where it would be given.

The Unitarian Church had been spoken of as a desirable place, and the trustees spoken to in reference to it, but they ~~had~~ seemed rather dis~~couraged~~ inclined to let it for such purpose. Musical Hall could be had for about 45$ per night, and he rather inclined to engage it at that price. Much good it was hoped would result to the Institute from these proposed lectures, as it would bring it prominently before the mechanics and other Citizens of the City, and make itself known.

Mr. Cofran moved to go into an election for President in place of B. Haywood resigned, which motion prevailing, Mr. Sylvester Sime and Mr. Burkitt Howard being appointed tellers, he was nominated for, and elected to the Office of President of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco.

On taking his seat the President briefly expressed his thanks for the honor done him, and made a few appropriate remarks as to his duties as President.

The election of Mr. Sime as President left the Office of Vice President vacant. A motion being made to go into an election for Vice President, ~~ruled that~~ the President ruled that according to the last clause of Section 3rd Article 4. of the Constitution twenty days notice of such election must first be given to make such election legal. An appeal was taken from the decision of the Chair and after a satisfactory explanation of the intent and meaning of that and other sections of the Constitution bearing upon the question was given by Mr. Burkitt & others, the question was put on sustaining the ruling of the President and was lost.

The motion was then made to go into an election for Vice President, in place vacant by the election of Mr. Sime as President, which motion prevailing, the same gentlemen were appointed tellers, and Mr. Gardner Elliott

was declared duly elected Vice President for the balance of the term. Whereupon the Office of Director being left vacant by the election of Mr. Elliott as Vice President, Mr. McKibbin was nominated for and elected Director for the balance of the term.

Mr. A. D. Williams Corresponding Secretary made a verbal report, to the effect that he had addressed many of the Circulars to distinguished men as well as to kindred associations in the Atlantic States, and hoped soon to hear a favorable account of them.

Mr. Burkitt suggested the importance of opening a Correspondence with like Institutions. He asked leave to propose the names of some well known gentlemen at the East as honorary members.

The following names were proposed to be elected honorary members of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, viz — Stephen Fairbanks, Boston, Wm. H. Hunnemann, Roxbury, Mass. Rod. Gift, Benicia. Apollos Munn N.Y. Editor of the "Scientific American". Charles Morgan, Newyork. Donald MacKay, Boston. George Lane Newyork. Horace Greely Newyork. Thomas P. Stillman, Novelty Works, Newyork. A. D. Harron, Baltimore. Mr. Warren, Sacramento, Editor of the "California Farmer". Wm. Brewster, Rochester Newyork. James B. Allaire, Newyork. The Mess. Harpers Bros. Newyork. George W. Davies, Newyork. Martin B. Ballou, Boston. Freeman H. Morse, Bath, Maine. Freman Hunt, Editor of "Merchants Magazine". John P. Cushing, Watertown, Mass. Thomas Whittemore, Boston. Charles H. Little, Brooklyn N.Y. Chester Hull, Oswego, Newyork. B. B. Mussey, Boston. William Carleton, Boston. Capt. Ericksson Newyork. William H. Bell N.Y. James Smith, N.Y. John C. Vinnick, Boston. George R. Darricutt, Boston. Gov. George N. Briggs, Pittsfield, Mass. George Steers Newyork. Wm. H. Webb, Newyork. John P.

Thorndike, Boston. Thomas A. Decore, New York. Gridley F. Bryant, Boston. Ammi B. Young Boston. Jonathan Preston Boston. Thomas Jeffers, Pawtucket, R.I. Charles G. Greene, Boston. and James G. Bennett, N.Y.

Whereupon, on motion, they were severally elected Honorary members of the Institute.

On motion the Institute adjourned to Wednesday evening next October 10th 1855. at 7½ O'clock. P.M.

P B Dexter Sec.

Hall of Institute
Wednesday evening October 10/55.

Pursuant to adjournment the Institute met this evening at their Rooms, and there not being a Constitutional quorum present the meeting was adjourned to the stated night of meeting, the first Wednesday of November at 7½ O'clock P.M.

P B Dexter Sec.

Hall of Institute
Tuesday evening October 9th 1855

This being the regular night of meeting it was hoped there would be present a full Board.

The President & Vice President and the following Directors only were present viz Mess. R. R. Williams, Cook & Cofran.

Whereupon there not being a quorum to do business the meeting adjourned and the president directed the Secretary to notify the Directors that there would be a meeting of the Board on Tuesday evening October 16th at 7½ O'clock P.M.

P B Dexter

Hall of Institute.
Tuesday evening October 16th 1855

The Board met pursuant to a call of the President.

Present the President, Vice President and a full Board of Directors. viz R. R. Williams, Ballentine, Cofran, Cook, Macredy, McKibbin and S. A. Williams.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees being in Order Mr. S. A. Williams from the Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts read several Bills against the Institute, which had been submitted for examination, had been found correct, and recommended that they be paid.

Whereupon it was ordered that orders be drawn upon the Treasurer for the amounts of the following Bills viz

P. B. Dexter's Bill for Services 1st to Sept. 1st		(20)	$127.50
S. Webb " " Paper & Ink		(21)	3.50
Franklin Williams " Printing 2000 notices		(22)	16.00
S. Brannan " Rent for Sept.		(23)	25.00
do	October	(24)	25.00
D. H. Darbyshire for Book Case in Park		(25)	25.00
making in all —			$222.00

Mr. Coffman from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building stated that they had received from Mr. Darbyshire the Book Case then in the Room upon the terms he had proposed. Viz – that there should be paid to him fifty Dollars for the said Case, twenty five Dollars of which was to be paid in one Share of the stock of the Institute, and the Balance in Cash.

The Report was accepted and the Bill referred to Com. on Ways & Means and accounts.

Mr. R. R. Williams from the Committee on Books & Donations, presented to the Institute from a "well wisher", one volume "Memoir & Sermons of J. Whitman" also a Copy of "Cushings Manual" – for the use of the Board. On motion they were accepted, and the thanks of Directors voted to the donors.

The following Communication was read and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

"Mercantile Library –
San Francisco. Oct. 16th 1855 –

To the
President & Directors of the
Mechanics Association
Gentlemen,

I have received this morning a (the following) communication from Mr. Charles B. Norton of New York, the agent of the

San Francisco Mercantile Library, in that City, containing the following paragraph which he desired me to bring before you.

He says "I have a fact of some importance to the Mechanic's Library, which I will feel obliged by your bringing to their notice.

A gentleman recently deceased has left a large sum of money for the Libraries of working-men. Any body of men, who can testify to the following are entitled to $500.

1st That the Association is composed of men who earn their living by the sweat of their brow.

2d That they are in possession of at least one hundred Volumes.

3d That they have a suitable Room for Lecturing & Reading.

4th That they are legally incorporated.

These should be drawn up, properly sworn to before a Justice and Certified by the County Clerk. I have no doubt but that with these papers I could secure the sum named, at the next distribution."

This is the substance of his Communication, from which I trust you may derive benefit. And in Conclusion allow me to recommend the name of Mr. Norton as one every way fitted to act as your agent in New York, for the purchase of Books and the reception of Donations. The agency of different libraries forms his principal business, and in that capacity I have found him uniformly faithful, prompt, and obliging. With many wishes for your success and prosperity

I am Gentlemen your obt Servt
Horace Davis
Librarian M. L. A.

On motion of Mr. McKibbin the letter was referred to the Committee on Books & Donations, and the matter therein contained commended to their attention & power to act given.

On enquiry made by Mr. Cofran of the President as to the probable time when a room suitable for a lecture would be wanted, the Chair stated that a further delay had been asked for by him, who, it was proposed should give the first lecture. That he hoped by the next meeting of the Board to be able to give the information asked for.

Mr. S. A. Williams made a motion that the thanks of the Institute be tendered to Col J. D. Stevenson for his donation of Books &c and that a notice of his liberality be published in several of the City papers which was carried.

Mr. R. R. Williams made some enquiry as to proceedings had at the last stated meeting of the Institute, as to the mode of proceeding then had in reference to the election of Vice President and one Director, and asked to have read that part of the minutes which embraced the election of the two Officers named.

By permission of the President that portion of the Minutes of the Institute relating to the election was then read, whereupon after some remarks as to the legality of that election, the President declared the whole matter out of Order.

The following communication was read.

"Monterey October 8th/55.

To the
Secretary of the
Mechanics Library Association
San Francisco

Sir,

I take the liberty of presenting to the Library of your Association a copy of a little

work I wrote on the "Press of California" &c the full work of which exists in the Mercantile Library Association of San Francisco.

I understand your Library has Mr. Schoolcraft's new work on the Indian tribes of North America, published by Congress.

I am very desirous of consulting the fourth volume of this work, and if you can favor me by lending it to me for a few days I should feel much obliged to you; and if lost will be responsible for its safe return to you, to the value of $50. Send by Pacific Express Company.

Respectfully yours
Alexander S. Taylor

Whereupon the letter was ordered to be placed on file and the Secretary instructed to advise Mr. Taylor that the regulations of the Library forbade its being allowed to go out of it, but should he find it convenient to visit the Reading Room of the Institute, it would be very much at his service.

There being no further business before the Board it adjourned to Tuesday evening next Oct. 23rd at 7½ O'Clock. P. M.

T. Dexter Sec.

Mr. Elliott having been elected Vice President a vacancy was thereby created in the Board of Directors which vacancy was filled by the election of Mr. McKibbin as Director. On taking his seat at the Board, the President placed Mr. McKibbin on the following Committees, and assigned to him the third place on both—

Ways & Means & Accounts. S. A. Williams, Cook, and McKibbin.

Books & Donations—
R. R. Williams, S. A. Williams and McKibbin

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday evening October 23d. 1855.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President, Vice President and the following Directors - viz - Messrs. S. A. Williams, R. R. Williams, Cook, McKibbin, Macredy and Cofran.

The proceedings of last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees were called for.

Whereupon Mr. S. A. Williams from the Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts, stated that no new business had come before the Committee, and they had no suggestions to make.

Mr. Macredy of the Committee on Reading Room & Building - could make no report in the absence of the other members of the Committee.

Mr. R. R. Williams Chairman of the Committee on Books & Donations, reported that the necessary documents had been made out in the matter relating to a bequest made by a person deceased in New York, were properly authenticated, and duly forwarded to Mr. Norton of that City - on last Steamer day.

Mr. Sloat a Notary Public having generously declined a fee for services rendered in authenticating the papers above, on motion of Mr. R. R. Williams the thanks of the Board was voted to him.

Mr. Williams also laid before the Board a very valuable work entitled "Owen's Geological Survey of Iowa, Wisconsin & Minnesota", presented to the Institute by Mr. J. D. Hittell Esq. Accompanying this work were files of the "Alta California" and

"San Francisco daily Herald".

Whereupon Mr. Williams moved that the thanks of the Board be voted to Mr. Hittell, and that a notice of his valuable contribution be published in the daily City press.

The President as Committee on lectures, stated that Col. Baker had notified him that on Friday night week he would be prepared to deliver a lecture before the Institute.

Musical Hall, he had been told could be had for $40. per night, and he would then suggest that a Committee of Arrangements be appointed by the Board to take charge of the whole matter.

On motion of Mr. Cook the President & Vice President were named as that Committee, to which was added, on motion of R. R. Williams, the Reading Room and Building Committee.

Among the valuable suggestions made by the various members of Board to secure a large audience, Mr. R. R. Williams moved, that the ladies of the City be respectfully invited to attend the lecture about to be given, which motion prevailed.

The President stated that the work mentioned by Mr. Taylor as having been forwarded to and for the Institute, had not yet come to hand, whereupon it was moved that the matter be referred to the Committee on Books and Donations.

Mr. McKibbin, in view that it might be necessary to call the Directors together before the next regular night of meeting, moved that the Board adjourn subject to the call of the President, which motion prevailed.

W. Devin Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday evening October 31st 1855.

The Board met in accordance with a call of the President.

Present the following Directors viz- Messrs R. R. Williams, Cook, S. H. Williams, Wm Kibbin Ballantine, and Macredy.

The Board having been called to order by the President, he stated that the Directors had been called together to perfect the arrangements necessary to be made on the occasion of the lecture to be given on Friday evening at Musical Hall by Col. E. D. Baker.

On motion the Committee of arrangements, appointed at the last meeting of the Board, were authorized to get up and have printed notes of invitations to the Citizens of San Francisco, together with the necessary number of tickets, and that they cause the same to be distributed.

On motion it was voted that the Secretary give notice through as many of the city papers as will publish the same gratuitously, of the time and place of holding the lecture to be given by Col. Baker.

The President, on motion of Mr. McKibbin appointed the following gentlemen to act as ushers on Friday evening, and requested the Secretary to notify them of such appointment. Messrs. R. Matheson, C. H. Gough, N. S. Howard, G. D. Street, H. T. Williams, C. L. Taylor, John C. Kincaid, H. Brosh, W. B. Maxson, and J. W. Reay.

The President appointed Messrs Elliott & McKibbin a Committee to see the parties named above and ascertain from each his willingness to act as usher to receive and seat the audience.

Adjourned to Second Tuesday in Nov.

C. P. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute -

Wednesday evening November the 7th 1855

The Institute met in pursuance to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President and a quorum of members.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

The chair called the attention of members to the necessity of procuring large additions to the membership of the Institute. He thought the present a favorable time to obtain new subscribers, when the recent lecture had made a favorable impression upon the Mechanics and other Citizens of the City.

Mr. Purkitt having expressed his gratification at the entire proceedings had in getting up the lecture before the Institute, in Musical Hall, and his high appreciation of the lecture itself, moved, that the thanks of the Institute be voted to Col. E. D. Baker, for his services on the occasion referred to, and that he be requested to write out the lecture then given, and a copy be placed in archives of the Institute.

Before putting the motion the President explained, that in a conversation had with Col Baker, he stated that he had never written out either speech or lecture, and that he made no effort to remember the order or arrangement of used by him in delivering either.

The motion of Mr. Purkitt being put was carried unanimously. Whereupon it was ordered that the Corresponding Secretary communicate the above to Col. Baker.

Mr. Elliott proposed Col. E. D. Baker as an honorary member of the Institute.

Mr. Matheson proposed the Hon. J. A. McDougall as a life member.

whereupon a discussion arose in which Mess. Matheson, Sime and Street and others participated, Mr. Punkitt in the Chair, when on motion of R. R. Williams the whole subject was laid upon the table.

Mr. Street enquired if it would be in order to recommend to the Committee on library, Reading Room and building that they procure a Room or rooms on a lower story and of greater Capacity. The Chair stated that a motion to recommend was in order. Whereupon Mr Street moved that the Committee having charge of these matters be recommended to procure other and more convenient Rooms for the use of the Institute and that they report at the next meeting. which motion prevailed.

Mr. Cofran Chairman of the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building stated that they were paying $25. per month for the present room, and that the Committee would feel obliged to any of the members who could point out a more Convenient room or rooms for anything like the same price.

Whereupon on motion of R. R. Williams the subject was referred to the Board of Directors with a request to procure more Convenient Rooms at a rent not to exceed $50. per month

Mr. Punkitt moved that the members of the Institute act in Committee of the whole, and each one take a Subscription paper and make some effort to obtain additional subscribers to the Stock of the Institute. Which motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Punkitt moved that Certificates of Stock, of membership and life membership be procured for the use of the Institute. Mr. Mathison remarked that he did

not know that the proper time had arrived for having this work done, but he trusted that when the wants of the Institute required it, that something of the kind would be got up at once elegant and appropriate. The motion being put on having the Certificates executed at present, it was lost.

Mr Street moved an adjournment to the next stated meeting, but withdrew his motion, on request of the President, who stated that the next lecture before the Institute, would be given between the 1st and 15th of the Coming month. The President also urged upon all the members then present to use every endeavor to enlarge the membership of the Institute.

The Institute then on removal of Mr. Street's motion adjourned to the first Wednesday in December at 7 O'Clock P. M.

C. P. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute —
Tuesday evening November 13th 1855 —
The Board met pursuant to adjournment —
Present the President, Vice President and the following Directors - Viz. Messrs. S. H. Williams. McKibbin, Cook, Cofran and R. R. Williams - constituting a quorum.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees were called for. Whereupon Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee of Ways & Means and Accounts reported the following Bills correct and recommended that they be paid.

Herald Office		
Advertising for Institute during the progress of its Organization	No. 26	$17.00
Musical Hall.		
Rent of Hall for Lecture on the night of Nov. 2nd	No. 27	40.00
Sam. Brannan		
Rent of Room for Nov.	No. 28.	25.00
Williams & Eastman		
Printing 100 Subscription lists	No. 29	4.00
Williams & Eastman		
Balance for Printing 1000 Copies of Constitution & By-laws	No. 30.	45.00
		$131.00

On motion it was voted that orders be drawn upon the Treasurer for the several amounts.

The Committee had also before them another Bill for Printing tickets and notes of invitation to the lecture at Musical Hall on the evening of Nov. 2nd upon which they desired further time. Messrs. Minson & Valentine had sent in two Bills for the above work, of different amounts, and they wished for time to make some further enquiries — Whereupon on motion of Mr.

McKibbin the Bills were referred back to the Committee of arrangements, appointed at the last meeting of the Board, with instructions to report at the next meeting.

Mr. R. R. Williams called for the reading of that portion of the minutes of the proceedings had at the meeting of the Institute on the evening of the 2nd Instant, relating to the renting of a more spacious and convenient room, for the Institute.

When on motion of Mr McKibbin the matter was referred to the Committee on Library Reading Room & Building.

Mr. Cofran from the above named Committee above named, stated that the Committee had given some attention to the subject of procuring another room, & suggested whether, with the present embarrassed condition of the Treasury, it would be advisable to increase the expenses of the Institute. The Committee could not hope to procure a larger room than the present, and on a lower story, at the rent the Institute now paid.

Mr. R. R. Williams read Art. 9. Section 3. of the Constitution, which provides that no money can be appropriated, unless the amount be actually in the Treasury.

The President as Chairman of the Committee on lecture stated that both Gen. Van Dorhase & Gen. McDougall had volunteered each to deliver a lecture before the Institute, and suggested the middle of the coming month as the probable time when the next lecture would be given.

Mr. McKibbin moved that the members of the Institute be required to pay the quarterly assessments provided in Section 1st of Article 3rd and that the quarter commence on the 1st day of November Inst. Mr. S. H. Williams offered an amendment, naming the 1st of

December as the commencement of the quarter and that the Secretary give from five to ten days notice thereof through the City papers. The amendment was accepted and the motion was carried.

On motion it was voted that from and after the first day of December proximo, the Room of the Institute shall be opened at 6. & shall remain open to 10 O'Clock P. M. each evening in the week, except Sundays, and that the Books then in the Library be let out to Subscribers in accordance with the regulations of the same.

On motion of R. R. Williams the Secretary was instructed to procure Stationery for the use of the members of the Institute

Mr. Cofran moved that the President be requested, at the next meeting of the Institute, to ask from the members the donation to the Library of at least one volume each

Mr. McKibbin opposed, and the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Cook enquired how the members of the Institute could be informed of the action of the Board of Directors, unless it was permitted them to hear their proceedings read.

The President stated that it was the right of the members of the Institute to know all the acts of the Board of Directors, and that on request of any member, the proceedings of the Board, could be read before the Institute

Whereupon it was ordered that at all future meetings of the Institute, the proceedings had before the Board of Directors should be read.

Mr. R. R. Williams read from Section 8th Article 7th of the Constitution, relating to the duty of the Treasurer in making a

monthly report of his receipts and disbursements.

Mr. McKibbin read Section 2nd Article 3rd of the By-laws defining the duties of Librarian, (particularly) and called attention particularly to the clause making it the duty of the Librarian to account to the Treasurer monthly for all moneys belonging to the Institute, coming into his hands, and taking therefor duplicate receipts.

The Librarian was instructed to procure a gilt frame for the engraved likeness of Dr. Franklin, presented by Mr. L. A. Pierce to the Institute, provided the frame be gratuitously obtained

There being no further business before the Board it adjourned to the 4th Tuesday in the present month, at 7 O'Clock P. M.

T. D. Sexton Sec.

X Mr. R. R. Williams from the Com. on Books and Donations, reported as having been presented to the Institute the following works, ~~viz~~ by several gentlemen of this City, viz

Mr. T. A. Miller has given
Files of the Water Cure Journal.
" " " Phrenological "
Several Nos of the Popular Educator.
Shaw's Masonry
Webster's Dictionary
Treatise on Joint Stock - (Duplicate)
American Form Book
Panorama of Science
Smith's Mental Arithmetic

Messrs Warren & Son of Sacramento have given
Files of The California Farmer for 1855.

Col. M. J. Pardee has given
The Contractors Book of Working Drawings

Statistics of U.S. for 1850 —
Compendium of Census of 1850 —
Finance Report for 1853-4
Patent Office Report for 1853 part 2d
Message & Documents. 1853-4 " 1st

Dr. R. E. Cole has given
Knapp's Chemistry 2 Vols

Gen J. A. McDougall has given
Exploration for a Rail Road Route from the Mississippi to the Pacific part 1st

Mr. I. H. Pierce has given
A finely engraved likeness of Benjamin Franklin

Mr. A. S. Taylor has given
Specimens of the Periodical Press of California, Oregon & Utah from 1846. to 1854 —

The Daily Press of the City send each a copy of paper.

The Noisy Carrier Co. have given
The Practical Draughtsman
Rudiments of Architecture & Building
Irvings 100 Receipts Stolen
The Roman Traitor.
Illustrated Manners Book
Viola
Mapleton.
Mechanics By Byrne
Commerce & Navigation of U. S.
Treatise on Pathology, in Spanish 2
Conversion of Magdalen "
Manual of Medical Surgery " 2

On motion the thanks of the Board was voted to the Donors.

Hall of the Institute.
Tuesday evening November 27th 1855 —

The Board met on this the regular stated night of meeting, pursuant to adjournment. Present the President, Vice President and the following Directors, viz — Messrs. Cook, Cofran, R. R. Williams, S. A. Williams, Macredy & Ballentine — The Vice President in the Chair.

Reports from Standing Committees being in order, Mr. S. A. Williams, presented the Statement of the Librarian, showing the amount collected since his statement of October 16th from which it appeared that the whole amount received from shareholders since that date was $285.00

Of this sum there had been paid
over to the Treasurer — $102.50.
Paid to Librarian & Sec for
Salary for September } 125.00
Paid for Sundries. Broom, Lock, candles 2.37½ — 229.87½
Balance to be paid Treasurer $55.12½

The same Committee to whom had been referred the following Bills, reported them Correct, and recommended them to be paid —

J. Webb's Bill for Stationery (No. 31.) $3.75
Salary of Sec. & Librarian for the Month of Sept. } (No. 32.) 127.37½

Whereupon it was voted that an order be drawn upon the Treasurer for the Amt.

Messrs. Munson & Valentine's Bill for printing tickets and notes of invitation to the lecture before the Institute on the 2nd Instant, was up for consideration, when on motion of Mr. Cofran, one of the Committee of arrangements for that occasion, it was voted that the bill, amounting for printing and material to — $82.00
should be paid, provided a deduction of 15.00
should be made thereon, and the Com (No. 33.) $67
mittee on Accounts should approve.

Mr. R. R. Williams, at the request of the Librarian, moved that the time for making collections for assessments be postponed to the first of January, which being put was lost.

Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building No report.

Committee on Books and Donations, through the Chairman, reported the following books as having been donated to the Institute by the following gentlemen.

From John VanDerwater Esq.

Documentary History of Newyork.	2 vol.
Washington and the Generals of the Revolution.	2 "
Cooper's Naval Biography	1 "
Cooper's Naval History of the U. S.	2 "
Wonders of the Universe	1 "
Religious Wars of France	1 "
American Politician	1 "
Typee, or Four Months in the Marquesas	1 "
	11 "

From Dr. C. T. Winslow.

Preparation of the Earth for the Intellectual Races	1 vol

From Calhoun Benham Esq.

Congressional Globe	5 vol
do Documents	3 "
	8 "

On motion the thanks of Board was voted to the donors.

The President stated that general Van Vorhaes would be prepared to deliver the next lecture before the Institute on or about the 15th December. Mr. Cofran suggested that as on the night of the 11th Musical Hall would be disengaged, it would perhaps be advisable to instruct the Committee to engage it for that evening. Which suggestion was concurred in.

Mr. R. R. Williams moved the appointment of a Committee to consist of three members whose duty it should be to make the necessary ar-

rangements for the coming lecture, which on being put was lost. It was then moved that the management be placed in the hands of the Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building, which motion prevailed.

Mr. Cofran Chairman of that Committee declined acting whereupon, on motion of Mr. Cook, the Board resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, and each was to do whatever might be necessary to secure a large audience.

There being no further business before the Board they adjourned to the next stated night of meeting.

(T. Bexter) Sec.

Hall of the Institute,
Tuesday evening December the 4th 1855

The Board of Directors met pursuant to the call of the President.

Present the President, Vice President and the following Directors, viz. Mess. Cook, S. H. Williams, Ballentine, Cofran, McKibbin and R. R. Williams.

The President stated that he had called the meeting at the request of several of the Directors and for the purpose of appointing a Committee whose duty it should be to arrange for the coming lecture to be given on the evening of the 11th Inst.

Mr. McKibbin moved that that Committee should consist of three and be composed of the Chairmen of the three standing Committees, and that it shall have power to provide all things necessary for the occasion.

The motion being carried, the Committee was made to consist of Messrs S. H. Williams, J. Cofran & R. R. Williams.

On motion of Mr. Cofran the President and Vice President were added to the above Committee.

On motion of Mr. Cook power was given to the Committee to procure any printing which they might deem necessary.

On motion of Mr. McKibbin the Board adjourned.

F. Bixter Sec

Hall of the Institute
Wednesday evening, December 5th 1855

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President and a quorum of members.

The minutes of the proceedings of the last stated meeting were read and approved.

In accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors, the President ordered the reading of the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors held since the last stated meeting of the Institute.

Reports from standing Committees being in order. Mr. S. H. Williams chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means and accounts, stated that he had not prepared a report to be laid before the Institute at its present meeting, and referred the members to the proceedings of the Board of Directors which had just been read.

Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building – No Report.

Committee on Books and Donations through the Chairman, Mr R. R. Williams, referred the members to the Book Case as an evidence of the healthy increase of the Library, contributions to which were being made almost daily.

Mr. Elliott moved to take from the table a motion made by him at the last meeting to elect Col. E. D. Baker an honorary member of the Institute, which motion prevailing, and a ballot being had, Col. Baker was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco.

In like manner Mr. Matheson moved to take from the table the motion made by him ~~at~~ at the last meeting to elect Gen. J. A. McDougall a life member of the Institute, which motion was carried. Whereupon Mr. Matheson renewed his motion to elect Gen. McDougall a life member.

This motion was opposed on constitutional grounds, and an animated discussion arose in which, Messrs. Matheson, Sime, Boyd, S. H. Williams, and Brannan participated. The motion then being put by the Vice President, was lost.

Mr. Sime then moved that Gen. J. A. McDougall be elected an honary member of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, which motion was carried unanimously.

The President stated that it would be necessary at the present meeting, to select from the members of the Institute ten persons whose duty it should be to act as ushers on the night of the lecture to be given at Musical Hall on the night of the 11th proximo. Whereupon the following gentlemen were duly nominated and appointed. Viz. Messrs. Oldham, Noah, Kennedy, Boyd, Taylor, Vandyke, Van Pelt, Nagle, Devoe, and Vail.

It was further ordered that the members, one and all should receive tickets of admission, and distribute as widely as possible in order to insure a full house on the night of the lecture.

There being no further business before the Institute, the meeting was adjourned to the first Wednesday in January, at 7 O'clock. P. M.

(P. Baxter) Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Monday Evening December the 24th 1855.

The Board met pursuant to a call of the President.

Present the President and the following Directors, viz. Mess. Ballentine, Cofran, S. H. Williams, R. R. Williams and McKibbin.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from standing Committees being in order, Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee of Ways & Means and Accounts reported the following Bills correct and recommended that they be paid.

L. E. Ritter's Bill for rent of Musical Hall on the night of the 12th of December	(34)	40.00
S. Brannan for Rent of Room for December	(35)	25.00
R. B. Sterrett's Bill for printing Tickets & notes of invitation to last lecture	(36)	13.50
do do Bill for printing 1000 tickets additional	(37)	4.00
Librarian & Sec. Salary for October	(38)	125.00
5 lb Candles		2.50
		$210.00
Connecticut Strongs Bill for Making and printing Assessment Book		17.00
" " making Stock Book		6.00
	(39)	$23.00

On motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the amount of the above Bills.

Mr. Williams from the same Committee presented the Monthly Statement of the Librarian - showing the amount of money collected, and from whom since his statement of Nov. 27 from which it appeared that the whole amount collected from shareholders since that date was $210.00 which was ordered to be paid over to Treasurer.

Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building - No report.

Committee on Books & Donations through the chairman Mr. R. R. Williams, made a report as follows—

Memorandum of Books &c presented to the Institute since the last regular meeting of the Board.

By H. T. Williams

Patent Office Reports for 1854 — 4 vols

By James Pindla.

The Carpenter's New Guide — 1 "

By Rev. Dr. Spencer and Entire Women

Dr. Scott.

Achan in Eldorado 1 "

By Benjamin Dow

History of Cuba, by Ballou 1 "

By Dr. T. Downer

Streeter's Hymns 1 "

Book of Common Prayer 1 "

New Testament in Spanish 1 "

An Argument for Christianity 1 "

Wierzbicki's French Grammar 1 "

Cubi's Spanish do 1 "

Perrin's French do 1 "

Dabell's Arithmetic 1 "

Adventures of Telemachus (French) 1 "

Theological discussion between Thomas & Ely 1 "

The Sunny Side 1 "

Memoir of Dr. Payson 1 "

A manual of Conduct 1 "

By Lewis Peck

Life of Louis Kossuth 1 "

Christian Philosophy 1 "

Lives of Celebrated Characters 1 "

27 vols

By S. F. Damon, the first contributor to the Cabinet.

A Petrifaction of Oregon Pine.

The leg & claw of a California Eagle

A history of the two last is promised

On motion of Mr. McKibbin the thanks of the Board was voted to the donors, and ordered that the acknowledgement of the above be made through the City Press.

The Committee reported the receipt of late Atlantic papers from the Penny Post Co. for which, on motion, the thanks of the Board was voted.

Mr. McKibbin stated that a valuable work on Architecture in two volumes folio had been offered to the Institute, through him, at a low price, and which he thought the Institute ought to purchase. Referred to the Committee on Books and Donations.

The President stated that the next lecture before the Institute would be given about the 11th of the coming month, and suggested that some action be taken by the Board in reference thereto.

Whereupon, on motion, the Committee of arrangements appointed for the last lecture was continued, with power to procure all things necessary for the occasion.

To the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building was referred the matter of procuring suitable files for the papers received by the Institute.

There being no further business before the Board, on motion of Mr. Ballentine it adjourned to the next regular night of meeting, at 7 O'Clock P. M.

The President laid before the Board a communication from Mr. J. A. Magagros, accompanied by copper dies of Daniel Webster and Henry Clay, which he desired to present to the Institute.

On motion the thanks of Board was unanimously voted, to the donor, and the letter ordered on file.

(P. B. Leyden Sec.)

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday Evening January 2nd 1856

This being the regular night of meeting it was hoped a Constitutional quorum would have been present. There being no quorum the meeting adjourned to the first wednesday in February at 7 O' Clock P. M.

(T. Dexter) Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday Evening January the 8th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and the following Directors viz. Messrs Ballentine – Coffran, Cook, McKibben & S. A. Williams.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Reports of the standing Committees being in order Mr. Coffran Chairman of the Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building, stated that the Committee had made search and enquiry for a room or rooms for the use of the Institute, but had as yet been unable to find any at the limit fixed by the Institute at its meeting on Nov. the 7th viz $50. per Month. The Committee could obtain other and more convenient & desirable rooms at a rent of from $65. to $75. Dollars, but they did not think it advisable to go beyond the limit fixed by the Institute whose servants they were.

Mr. Cook enquired of the Committee at what price a more spacious and convenient room could probably be obtained.

The Committee, through the Chairman stated that a room or rooms on a lower story and every way more convenient than the present one, could be had for about * $70. per month. The Committee, at a former meeting of the Board, had been instructed to procure files for the several papers received, but in view of the fact that the Institute would not long occupy the present Hall, they had thought it inexpedient to incur further expense in fitting up reading shelves &c. in this present location

Further time was given to the Committee, with the understanding that they

should continue their enquiries for other and more convenient rooms.

Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts, laid before the Board the Bill of Mr. S. Brannan for rent of room for the month of January, which had been approved by the Committee, and recommended that it be paid.

S. Brannan's Bill for Rent for January (No. 40) $25.00

On motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the amount.

Mr. McKibbin from the Committee on Books & Donations acknowledged the gift of Eleven volumes to the Library of the Institute by Mr. Joseph Van Dyke, comprising Eight volumes of the Family Library — 8 vols.

History of Numa Pompilius 1 "
Fern Leaves by Fanny Fern 1 "
British Essayists. (Macauly) 1 "

On motion the thanks of the Board was voted to the donor.

The President as Chairman of the Committee on Lectures, stated that General McDougall had given him notice that his engagements as counsel in an important case at the time pending in one of the Courts, would prevent his giving his lecture before the Institute before week after next, or about the 25th Inst. He further stated that Mr. Frank Soule had consented to recite a poem on the occasion of the next lecture. The subject of the lecture as chosen by Gen. McDougall, would be "California, her resources and probable destiny."

Mr. S. H. Williams offered some valuable suggestions to the Board, in reference to the establishment of a "Mechanics Exchange" in connection with the Reading Room of the Institute, at which place the Builders and other Mechanics

could meet daily, and discuss their general interests. By such an arrangement the mechanics of the City would become acquainted, the Reading Room would furnish them with general intelligence of the day, and an opportunity would be thus afforded of hearing and adopting plans best calculated to promote and secure the best interests of all concerned. Mr. Williams thought a moderate tax levied upon persons resorting to this exchange would pay a portion of the rent, and thus save to the Institute a considerable item of expense.

Mr. McKibbin heartily approved the suggestions just made in reference to a Mechanics Exchange, and thought there were mechanics and others in sufficient numbers who would gladly avail themselves of the privilege of attending these meetings, to pay the entire rent of a convenient hall, besides a revenue could be collected for the further privilege of keeping order boxes &c.

Mr. Coffey thought the plan proposed was a very good one, and trusted it would be brought before the Institute at its next meeting.

There being no further business before the Board, it adjourned to the next regular night of meeting, January 22nd at 7 O'Clock.

(P. Dexter) Sec.

Tuesday Evening January 22nd 1856

This was the regular night of meeting, but there not being a Constitutional quorum present, no business could be transacted, and the Directors present adjourned.

(P. Dexter) Sec.

Hall of the Institute
Tuesday Evening January 29th 1856

The Board met agreeably to a call of the President. Present the following Directors viz—
Mess. Logan, Cook, S. H. Williams, McKibbin and R. R. Williams.

The minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The reports of committees being called for— the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, no report.

Committee on Ways & Means and accounts through the Chairman, S. H. Williams reported as correct the following bills and recommended that they be paid.

D Bramani Bill for Rent for Jan.	(No. 40.)	$25.00
Mess. Chase & Bonch for Printing 2000 Blank receipts	(No 41)	15.00
Salary of Librarian & Sec. for the Month of November, & for Candles	(No. 42)	128.00

On motion the above Bills were ordered to be paid.

The Committee laid before the Board the Monthly report of the Librarian from which it appeared that the whole amount collected since his last report was $180.00

The Committee on Books and Donations, reported as having been presented to the Institute the following Books viz—

From Mr. R. Matheson
Journal & Appendix of the assembly of California legislature for the session of 1855— 2
Journal and appendix of the Senate of California for 1855— 2

From Mr. A. G. Randall
Simpson's journey around the world 1
Plymouth and the Pilgrims 1
Novelties of the New World. 1

Romance of American History 1
Cromwell by Herbert 1
Mechanics Text Book 1

Accompanying these was a communication from Mr. Randall which having been read was ordered on file.

The President stated that Gen. McDougall would be ready to give the proposed lecture on thursday evening the 7th Inst. on which occasion Mr. F. Soule would recite a poem.

The Committee of Arrangements appointed for the former lecture was authorized to furnish the necessary number of tickets and notes of invitation.

On motion adjourned to the next regular meeting.

F. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday evening February 6th 1856

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President and a quorum of members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The proceedings had before the Board of Directors since the last meeting of the Institute were also read.

Reports from the Standing Committees of of the Board of Directors being in order Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee of Ways and Means & Account. submitted the following Statement:

Receipts —

Whole Amt. Collected by Mr. Glynes during the progress of Organization —		$547.50
Of this he disbursed $51.50		
In hands of Mr. R. Mattison & Paid to Sec.	20.00	71.50
Amt. Paid over by Mr. Glynes —		$476.00
Collected and paid over by the Librarian up to Oct. 16th		182.50
Collected " to Nov. 27th		280.00
" " " Dec. 24th		210.00
" " " Jan. 22nd —		180.00
" By late Treasurer J. W. Brooks.		12.50
Total Receipts Paid over to Treasurer —		$1341.00
Add, sum disbursed by Mr. Glynes		51.50
Total of Collections Since Organization		$1392.50

Disbursements.

Hanna & Co's Bill for printing Blank receipts	(1)	12.00
Co. G. Hall's " for 2 Blank Books	(2)	11.00
Alta California " Advertising for Institute	(3)	9.00
Franklin Printing Press, printing Constitution & By-laws	(4)	75.00
Head City Hall Keeper, for Sweeping &c	(6)	10.00
G. W. Murray for Receipt Book	(5)	1.50
Evening News for Advertising	(7)	4.00
forward		$122.50

Disbursements Continued

Amt. Brot. forward		$122.50
S. Webb's Bill for Stationery	(No 8)	2.75
J. Ginella for Candlesticks	(No 9)	2.00
T. Doule Theo for Advertising	(No 10)	18.50
C. Whalley Theo " Spittoons	(No 11)	8.00
S. Braman for Rent of Room for July	(No 12)	25.00
T. Baker for Carpet	(No 13)	54.44
S. Webb Copying Press, Book &c	(No 14)	19.00
Franklin Printing Press for 4 Reams Circulars	(No 15)	30.00
T. Baker for Rug and Mat	(No 16)	6.50
C. O. Whitney 1/2 doz Office Chairs	(No 17)	37.50
Co. S. Speer for 2 Letters	(No 18)	15.00
S. Braman for Rent of Room for August	(No 19)	25.00
Librarian & Secretary for Services to Sept 1st	(20)	127.50
S. Webb for Stationery	(No 21)	3.50
Franklin Printing Press, 2000 notices	(No 22)	16.00
S. Braman Rent of Room for Sept	(No 23)	25.00
do " " Oct.	(No 24)	25.00
D. K. Darbyshire for Book case in part	(No 25)	25.00
Herald Office for Advertising	(No 26)	17.00
L. Co. Ritter — Rent of Musical Hall 1st Lecture	(No 27)	40.00
S. Braman Rent for November	(No 28)	25.00
Williams & Eastman, Printing Subscription lists	(No 29)	4.00
do " 1000 Copies Constitution	(No 30)	45.00
S. Webb's Bill for Stationery	(No 31)	3.75
Salary of Librarian & Sec. for Sept.	(No 32)	127.37½
Monson & Valentine for Printing for 1st lecture	(No 33)	67.00
L. Co. Ritter's Rent of Musical Hall 2nd lecture	(No 34)	40.00
S. Braman Rent of Room for December	(No 35)	25.00
B. F. Sterrett's Bill for Printing for 2nd lecture	(No 36)	13.50
do " 1000 Tickets " "	(No 37)	4.00
Salary &c. Librarian & Sec. for Oct.	(No 38)	127.50
Leconte & Strong's Bill for Assessment & Stock Books	(No 39)	23.00
S. Braman for Rent of Room for January	(No 40)	25.00
Mhase & Bonnerd for Printing 2000 Blank receipts	(No 41)	15.00
Salary &c. Librarian & Sec. for November	(No 42)	125.00
Total disbursements to Jan. 22nd 1856		$1318.37½

Recapitulation –

Paid for Advertising and other Printing	$ 330.00
" " Blank Books & Stationery	65.25
" " Rent of Room to February the 1st	175.00
" " Rent of Musical Hall for 1st & 2nd lectures	80.00
" " Salary to Librarian & Sec. to Dec. 1st	500.00
" to City Hall Keeper for Services (during organization)	10.00
" for Candles &c	9.62
" " Furniture &c for Room	148.44
Total expenditures to January 22/56	$ 1318.31

The first installment of 10 per cent on each share of stock has been paid on 321 shares ~~making~~ by 192 shareholders making $802.50

Paid to Institute by Mr. T. H. Selby	25.00
Second installment has been paid on 180 shares	450.00
Quarterly dues have been paid amounting to	115.00
Total Receipts to January 22nd	$ 1392.50

There are at present two hundred and sixty four subscribers to the stock of the Institute, representing four hundred and sixty five shares. Of these only one hundred and ninety two have paid any thing – showing the number of delinquents, or of those who have not paid any thing, seventy two. Of these last there are probably many who will yet meet their engagements to the Institute. The Committee feel called upon to state that much difficulty has been experienced in making collections, and recommend that some measure be adopted to insure a more prompt payment on the part of Members. all which is respectfully submitted.

On motion of Mr. Hasselfross the Report was received and referred to a Committee of three members to be named by the President, who should report at the next meeting of the Institute. The chair named Messrs Hasselfross, Mathison, and Pirsitt as the committee.

The Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building, by the Chairman Mr. Cofran submitted the following Report.

The Committee had early given their attention to the wants of the Institute in the way of obtaining suitable Room or Rooms, and at a time when there were no books in the Library, and no money in the Treasury with which to purchase, they had rented the present one at the rate of ~~fifty~~ seventy five Dollars per month. (The Institute had occupied it for seven months, but as the prospects of the Institute were brightening, and its). It would be recollected that at the meeting of the Institute in Nov. the Committee had been limited to $50. as the amount which they were authorized to pay for rent of more spacious and convenient Rooms, and for the sum named such Rooms, in a desirable location, could not be procured. The Committee would suggest that the limit then established be rescinded. The following exhibit would show the expenditures made at the instance or on the recommendation of the Committee.

Rent of Hall for 7 months from July the 1st @ $25 –	175.00
T. Baker's Bills for Carpet, Mat & Rug	60.94
Whalley Hos Bill for Spittoons	8.00
J. Ginella's Bill for Candlesticks	2.00
E. S. Spear's " for 2 Settees	15.00
G. O. Whitney's " 1/2 Doz. Office Chairs	37.50
D. R. Derbyshire for Book case	50.00
	$ 348.44

The fine table was given to the Institute by Mr. G. Elliott, the Vice President. All which is respectfully submitted.

On motion the above report was received and ordered to be spread on the minutes.

Mr. R. R. Williams from the Committee on Books and Donations, stated the

total number of Volumes in the Library, to be four hundred and Sixty Seven, all of which had been donated to the Institute

The report was accepted.

Mr. Hossefross inquired if there had been such a fund created by the Board, as a Sinking fund, which should be drawn on only when the Amt. of Assessments collected should be insufficient to meet the Current expenses.

Mr. H. suggested that twenty five cents levied upon each member per month would be ample, and this the members could afford to pay in addition to the sums provided for in the Constitution.

Mr. C. H. Gough Treasurer, submitted the following report.

Annual Account of C. H. Gough Treasurer of the Mechanics Institute from —
July 1855 to February 6th 1856.

Receipts —

July 23	By cash from President	$254.36	
Oct. 16th	" " Librarian	177.50	
Nov. 14	" " do	285.00	
Dec. 28	" " do	210.00	
1856 January 31	" " do	180.00	$1106.86

Disbursements

1855 August 1.	To cash for Orders & Receipts 14 to 19	$133.00	
Oct 16.	" " " " " 20 to 25.	222.00	
Nov. 14	" " " " " 26 to 33.	329.37½	
Dec. 24	" " " " " 34 to 39	233.00	
1856 January 22	" " " " " 40 to 42.	168.00	1085.37½
	Balance		$21.48½

All which respectfully submitted
C. H. Gough
Treasurer

On motion the report was received and referred to the special Committee of three.

To ensure a more certain and prompt collection of dues from members, Mr. Hossefross suggested the posting of the names of delinquent share holders, and made a motion that the names of such as refuse to pay should be placed on a black board, or otherwise made public. Whereupon an animated discussion arose in which Messrs. Brannan, Peck and Burkitt participated, when Mr. Hossefross withdrew his motion

The Corresponding Secretary stated that he had been in Correspondence both with individuals and associations at the east, a portion of which Correspondence, if desired, he would read. A letter from O. U. Munn of the Scientific American, having been read, advising the Institute of the decease of a gentlemen elected at a former meeting an honorary member, it was moved and carried that the name of O. U. Munn be substituted for that of Apollos Munn deceased and that he be informed of his election as an honorary member of the Institute. After reading other Communications the Cor. Secretary laid before the Institute a report of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Mechanics Institute, which went to show the means employed by that Directory to relieve their association from embarrassment and render it one of the most prosperous Institutions of the kind in the United States.

A Conversation hereupon arose as to the best means to be employed to carry out the design of the Institute, to create a building fund, and raise means to purchase books &c and as the report itself was deemed too lengthy to be read at the present meeting, Mr. Burkitt moved, and the motion prevailed that when the Institute adjourns it shall adjourn to meet on Wednesday evening next for the purpose of hearing the report of the Ohio Mechanics

Institute read, and to devise ways and means to meet the Current expenses of the Mechanics Institute of San Francisco.

The Corresponding Secretary asked permission to read a resolution which he had hastily drawn up since he came into the Hall, the idea of which had been suggested by a perusal of the report just named. He did not intend to lay it before the Institute for its present action. The resolution was read.

Mr. Peck suggested as a means of enlarging the membership of the Institute, that a Circular be drawn up, and placed in every work shop in the City, and mechanics be invited to join and lend their aid in building up an association here on the Pacific, that should compare favorably with like institutions in the Atlantic Cities.

* Mr. Fisk inquired if any action had been taken by the Institute or Board of Directors in establishing a debating Society among the members. Whereupon on motion of Mr. Gough the subject was referred to the Board of Directors.

The President stated that as the Committee on Lectures had not before them the name of any gentleman for the next lecture of the Course, he would like the members would suggest the names of any who would be willing to lecture before the Institute.

Mr. Matheson suggested W. W. Shepherd Esqr.
Mr. Marson " Milton S. Latham Esqr

Mr. Street moved that in order to afford an opportunity to those members of the Institute to vote at the Coming election for officers, who could not Conveniently spend the entire evening at the meeting in March, that the polls be kept open from 7 to 9 O'clock. Carried.

Mr. Purkitt gave notice of a proposed

amendment to the Constitution, to Article 4. Section 3d relating to the election of Officers.

The President in reply to Mr. Street's enquiry as to the power of shareholders to transfer their stock in the Institute, stated that as the Institute was an incorporated body the power of transfer was unquestionable.

The motion of Mr. McKibbin to rescind the resolution adopted by the Institute at its meeting in November fixing the limit at $ 50. within which the Board was to be governed in procuring other more spacious and convenient rooms, was carried & the matter referred to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Coffman stated that as the very handsome table now in the Hall, had not been formally presented to the Institute, and as it had been generously donated by our present Vice President, Mr. Gardner Elliott, he moved that the thanks of the Institute be voted to the donor, which was carried unanimously.

On motion the Institute adjourned.

(F B Dexter) Sec.

* Mr. Fisk inquired if any action had been taken by the Institute or Board of Directors in reference to the establishment of a debating society among the members. Whereupon Mr. Gough moved that a Committee of three be appointed to take the matter into consideration. Mr. H. P. Williams suggested the propriety of first ascertaining by a direct vote of the Institute whether a debating society should be authorized, when the question being put, shall there be a debating society authorized? it was carried affirmatively. Mr. Gough then moved that the subject be referred to the Board of Directors for their action, which motion prevailed.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday evening February 12th 1856.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and the following Directors, viz. Messrs. Ballentine, Coffran, Cook, McKibbin, S. H. Williams and R. R. Williams.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees being in Order: Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, reported the following Bills as correct and recommended that they be paid.

Starrett & Co's Bill for Printing 1000 Cards } 600 Invitations } (43) $8.00

L. E. Ritter & Co. for Rent of Music Hall on the 7th Inst. for the 3rd Lecture (44) $40.00

S. Brannan for Rent of Room for Feb. (No. 45.) 25.00

On motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the Amount.

Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building - made no report.

Committee on Books and Donations - made no report.

Business referred by the Institute to the Board of Directors was taken up.

The matter relating to a debating Society, to be formed by the members, being called up and discussed, Mr. McKibbin moved that Monday evening of each week be set apart for the meeting of those who desired to participate in any debate, and that the Rooms be then thrown open for that purpose. The motion prevailed.

On motion it was made the duty of the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building to report to the Institute the action of the Board on this subject.

The resolution of the Institute rescinding

the limit establishing $30. as the amount beyond which the Committee could not go in renting other and more convenient Rooms, was called up, discussed, and the subject referred to the Committee on Library - Reading Room and Building.

Mr. Cook moved that the thanks of the Board be voted to Gen. J. A. McDougall for his lecture, and to B. Doyle Esq. for the delivery of a Poem before the Institute on the 7th Inst. at Musical Hall, that the latter be requested to furnish for the use of the Institute a Copy of the poem then recited, and that the corresponding Sec. be directed to convey to each the high appreciation of the Board of the service then rendered. Carried unanimously.

Mr. R. R. Williams gave notice of the following proposed amendment, or addition to the 5th Article of the By-laws.

Article 5th

Section 2nd. The Board of Directors shall appoint three judges from the members to receive the votes cast at elections -

Section 3. Said judges shall report as early as practicable the result of said elections to the Board of Directors, who shall make known the result of said elections.

Laid over till the next stated meeting of the Board.

Mr. Cook called the attention of the Board to the fact that, in the absence of the Librarian from the Rooms, members violated the rules by taking Books from the Case, and consequently no register of such could be made. He suggested that the terms and conditions upon which books could be taken from the library and kept by members should be printed, and attached to each volume. That the Librarian should procure a book in which to register the name of the member taking any volume from the Library, the date, and the condition and No. of each book so taken.

Mr. Cook also suggested that there should be locks placed upon the Book case.

Whereupon the matters complained of were referred to Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, with instructions to procure the necessary locks.

Mr. R. R. Williams proposed the name of W. D. Gough Esqr. as a gentleman competent and willing to lecture before the Institute.

Referred to The Committee on lectures.

On motion the Board adjourned.

(P. B. Dexter) Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday evening, February 13th 1856

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and a quorum of the members. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Special Committees were called for, Whereupon Mr. R. Matheson from the Special Committee ~~appointed~~ to ~~[illegible]~~ whom had been referred the reports of the Committee of Ways and Means and accounts and the Treasurer stated that, in consequence of the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, Mr. Hasselpose, it devolved on him to report that the Committee had carefully examined the papers submitted to them and had found them correct. The report was received.

Mr. Matheson moved that the Corresponding Sec. now read the Report of the Directors of the Ohio Mechanics Institute, which motion prevailed and the report was read and listened to with marked attention.

Mr. Bernard moved the acceptance of the report to the Ohio Mechanics Institute, and that it be placed in the Library — which was carried.

Mr. Fisk moved the appointment of a Committee to take into consideration the defects in those provisions of the Constitution relating to the election of Officers, and to recommend the necessary amendments thereto.

Mr. Matheson referred to Art. 7 Section 9 of the Constitution as in his opinion, rendering the appointment of such Committee unnecessary — Whereupon Mr. Fisk did not press his motion.

Mr. Elliott moved the reconsideration of the vote of the Institute at its last meeting, declaring that the Balls, on the evening ~~evening~~ of the Coming election should open at 7 and close at 9 O'clock, when ~~which motion prevailed~~. after an animated dis

cussion, in which Messr. Gough, Matheson, Fisk Donohue, Bristow, Bernard, S. H. Williams, H. T. Williams and the President (Mr. O'Meara in the Chair) participated. Mr. Gough offered the following resolutions as a substitute for the several motions which had been made and which was adopted.

Resolved, "That the Polls for the election of Officers on the first wednesday in March next shall not be closed before 10. O'clock P.M. of that day—

Mr. Fisk enquired if any and what action had been taken by the Board of Directors, on the subject of the establishment of a debating Society.

Mr. Lofran stated that as chairman of the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, it had been made his duty to make known to the Institute, that the Board had set a part monday evening of each week, for the meeting of those members who desired to be present at, or participate in any debate, and that the Rooms would then be thrown open for that purpose.

Some Conversation here ensued among the members— touching the regulations proper to be observed in Conducting the society successfully, when it was agreed that it should frame and adopt its own rules.

Mr. Matheson moved to take up the subject for which mainly the present meeting had been called. namely, the finances—

Mr. Matheson spoke of the impoverished condition of the treasury.

Mr. Donohue thought the present meeting should fix the qualification of voters at the next election and moved that no member be permitted to vote unless he shall have paid the first and second installments on the number of shares subscribed for, and the quarterly dues.

The motion was not put. Some Conversation

hereupon arose among several of the members as to the proper standard of qualification for voters, when the President ruled that no member could be allowed to vote under even a very liberal construction, unless he shall have paid at least one installment of ten per cent on his stock, and paid his quarterly dues.

A question arose as to the mode of voting for Officers, whether they shall commence with the President, and after the election of that Officer, take up the Vice President, then the Sec. & Cor. Sec. Treasurer & the Board of Directors, or whether the names of all the Officers to be elected shall be written on the same ballot!

Mr. Donohue moved that the names of all the persons voted for, for any Office, be placed upon the same ticket. The motion was Carried.

On motion the Institute Adjourned.

C. P. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday evening February 26th 1856

This being the stated night of meeting, and there not being a quorum of the Board present the meeting adjourned to the next evening – Present the President and Vice President and the following Directors, Mess. Cook Cofran, S. H. Williams and R. Williams.

Wednesday evening Feb. 27th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President and the following Directors viz – Mess. Bellentine, Cofran, Cook, McKibbin S. H. Williams & R. R. Williams

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Reports of standing Committees were called for, whereupon Mr. Cofran from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, stated that they had procured locks and had them attached to the Book case in accordance with the recommendation of the Board, but was unable to state the cost as no bill had been sent in by the person unployed to do the work.

Mr. Cofran further stated in reference to the rent of another Room, that the Institute could have the Room known as Armory Hall at the corner of Washington and Dawson Streets, at a monthly rent of one hundred Dollars per month. The room was about seventy five by sixty five feet, containing ample space for the use of the Institute. This statement was submitted for the action of the Board.

On motion the report was received and further time granted.

Mr. S. H. Williams from the Committee of Ways & Means and Accounts,

Presented the following Bills which the Committee had examined and found correct, and recommended that they be paid.

P. B. Dexter's Bill for Salary for December		$ 125.00
10th Candles		5.00
	No. 46	$ 130.00
H. D. Williams Bill for Postage & Postage stamps furnished the Institute to date		15.00
Paid for Printing notices of Honorary Membership		6.00
	(No. 47)	$ 21.00

On motion it was ~~ordered~~ voted that an Order be drawn on the treasurer for the amount.

The Chairman (further) laid before the Board the Monthly statement of the librarian showing the amount of money collected by him since his return made on the 22nd of January. The whole amount collected since that date is $ 201.50

Quarterly Assessments	139.00	
Installments on Stock	62.50	$ 201.50

On motion the report of the Committee was received.

Mr. R. R. Williams from the Committee on Books and Donations, acknowledged the gift of the following Books to the Institute, from the ~~following~~ named, to wit, from

B. Haywood,

The works of Lord Bacon in	3.	vols
Miltons Poetical works	1	"
Poetical works of Lord Byron	1	"
Longfellow's Poems, Illustrated	1	"
Croly's British Poets	1	"
Dean's Wonders of the World	1	"
Universal Traveller	1	"
Ollendorff's New Method of learning French	1	"
Key to Ollendorff	1	"
Park Dr. of Chambaud's French and English Dictionary	1	"
Holy Bible	1	
Meadow's French & English Dictionary	1	"
French Conversations	1	

E. Cook

Napiers Peninsular war 1 vol

Addresses on the death of D. Webster 1 –

From some person unknown

5 copies of the History of Numa Pompilius 5.

On motion the thanks of the Board was voted to the donors.

Mr. R. R. Williams moved, that inasmuch as there are Copies in the Library of the Institute six Copies of the history of Numa Pompilius, the librarian be authorized to exchange a copy of said work for some other work of equal value. The motion prevailed.

Mr. Cook moved, and the motion prevailed, that Schoolcrafts history, condition and prospects of the Indian Tribes of the U. S. be not allowed to be taken from the library.

The Board proceeded to the election of the three judges provided for in Article 4 Section 3 of the Constitution, to superintend the election of the Officers of the Institute to be held at their rooms on Wednesday evening March the 5th which resulted in the choice of the following –

Mess. Kittredge, Boyd, and Kincaid.

On motion the Secretary was instructed to notify the gentlemen of their election, and to advise them that on ascertaining the result of said election, they were to make report to the President of the meeting that night.

Mr. R. R. Williams called up the proposed Amendment to the 5th Article of the Bylaws, whereupon the President ruled, that inasmuch as the Bylaws provided that amendments could only be considered at a stated meeting of the Board, it would not be strictly in order to discuss the amendments at the present time as this was a called meeting of the Board.

On motion it was voted that the Secretary furnish for the use of the judges of election a correct list of the members entitled under the Constitution to vote for Officers at the Coming annual election.

R. R. Williams moved, that to determine the qualification of voters, the judges right should question the member whether he had paid the first installments of ten per cent on the shares of Stock he had subscribed for, had paid the quarterly assessments and signed the Constitution.

On Motion the Board adjourned.

(J. B. Lyster) Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday evening March the 5th 1856

The Institute met pursuant to public notice given through two of the daily papers of the City, for twenty days last past, as provided in Article 4. Section 3. of the Constitution.

Present the President, Vice President and a quorum of the members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The President in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors, requested the Secretary to read the proceedings of the Board, at its meetings of February the 12th and 27th of February in order to make known to the Institute its action upon the several matters which had come before it. The minutes having been read, the President laid before the Institute his annual report, as required by Article 4 Section 4. of the Constitution, which having been read by the Secretary, was on motion of Mr. Dexter received, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

To the Members of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco.

Gentlemen,

On this, the first anniversary of our formation as a society, allow me to congratulate you on its organization as a body, and in submitting the following report, to suggest such action as it appears to me will conduce to the ultimate prosperity of the association.

In submitting the following financial report, the result of which is not as favorable as might have been hoped for — it must be borne in mind that this is the first year of our organization and that we have naturally had more difficulties to overcome during these early days of our existence than we shall be subjected to at a later period.

The Treasurers report, herewith submitted, shows the total receipts of the year to have been $1106.86
Disbursements during the same period 1085.37
Leaving a balance in the Treasury, On the 1st day of February 1856. of $21.49

Two hundred members have paid their first installment on Stock; one hundred and fifteen members have paid their first & Second installments, and only ninety two members have paid their quarterly dues.

The Objects of the Institution are the establishment of a Library, and Readingroom, lectures &c &c and thereby to provide sources of attractive and intellectual entertainment for those who desire to avail themselves of such.

We have enrolled the names of two hundred and eighty two members during the past year, but I regret to say many of them are only members in name, and neither assist us by their exertions to carry out the objects of the association, nor in a financial way.

Our library is yet quite small, consisting of only four hundred and eighty seven volumes in all. It is desirable that this number should be increased as speedily as possible, and our successors in Office should not depend upon the public alone, from whom we have been disappointed in receiving donations of books, but should make appropriations as soon as practicable, for this object.

Hearing last October that a resident of Newyork had died, leaving an amount of money, out of which every properly organized Mechanics Institute was to receive the sum of five hundred dollars, the Board of Directors ordered to be sent to our agent in that City the necessary notice of our organization, the number of our members &c. We have since heard that the trustees of this fund do not again meet until the coming June, when it is thought, we will be able to obtain the bequest

and in that event, we have ordered the same to be invested in books for the library.

In this connection I must urge upon members the necessity of promptly paying their dues, for without a well filled Treasury it is impossible to perfect any arrangement for the comfort of the members, or the benefit of the society.

I call the attention of the ~~mem~~ ~~bers~~ officers to be elected, to the Reading Rooms which are neither sufficiently large, nor conveniently situated, being in the fourth story of a building. These defects would have been remedied had not an extremely limited state of the finances, prevented the Board of Directors, having neither the disposition or authority to involve the association by incurring liabilities beyond their present means to liquidate.

We have only been able to secure the delivery of three lectures before the society, and although they drew large audiences, the immediately beneficial effects to the Institution anticipated by the Directors were not realized, notwithstanding the able character of the lectures. It was expected that these lectures would have awakened an interest in the community in favor of our Institution, and induced contributions to our library, and I trust that although our hopes have not thus far been realized, our successors in office will encourage the continuance of the same course of instruction, believing as I do that it will ultimately result in the benefit of the society.

A passing notice must here be taken of the Debating Society, formed by the exertions of some of the members of this association. I specially recommend it to the patronage of the young members among us. By participating in debates upon good subjects, a tone and vigor will be given to their minds which can only be acquired by closely studying the opinions of others. Let the subjects be well chosen, and there are but few of us who cannot derive some instruction, and more pleasure from this discussion. The minds of many need relaxation from constant business, and in no manner can it be better acquired than by joining in, or at least listening to such debates.

In conclusion I must urge the members of this association to be active in influencing others to join us, and appeal also to the Mechanics of the City, whose names are not upon the roll of membership for their cooperation and substantial aid – the fee of three dollars per quarter, is so small that it requires the subscriptions of many members to provide funds for the necessary expenses of the association – every member can influence a few to join us, and thus a society can be formed, the influence of which will be felt, and from which each of us must derive incalculable advantages.

John Sime,

The President announced the business next in order would be to nominate candidates for President of the Institute for the current year.

Whereupon Messr. Sime, Matheson, and C. Mears were put in nomination, when on motion the nominations for President were closed.

Nominations for Vice President were then called, when the names of Messr. Elliott, Donohue and Pipe were proposed, and the nominations for Vice President were closed.

Mr. Deyte was nominated for Recording Secretary.

Mr. H. P. Williams was nominated for Corresponding Secretary.

Nominations for Treasurer were called for when the names of Messr. Cook, Gough Hosefross and O'Brien were proposed and the nominations for Treasurer closed.

The Institute then proceeded to

make nominations for Seven Directors when the following were proposed viz. Messs. R. R. Williams J. O'Brien, Andrews, Street, Taylor, Van Pelt, Kincaid, McKibbin, Swett, Kittredge, and Frost.

On motion the nominations were closed.

The President stated that the Board of Directors, at its last meeting, had, in accordance with Article 4. Sec. 3. of the Constitution, elected three judges to superintend the election to come off that night, and requested them to take their seats at the table and proceed with the election. The following were announced as the judges, Messrs. Boyd, Kittredge and Kincaid, when Mr. Boyd stated his reasons why he felt it his duty to decline acting in the place to which he had been appointed. Mr. Boyd having peremptorily declined, Mr. Andrews was chosen to supply his place.

The Polls having been kept open till 10. O'clock P.M. in accordance with a resolution of the Institute adopted at its meeting of the 13th of February – the ballots were counted and showed the following result, as reported to the President

For President

John Sime received twenty nine votes.
James O'Meara " Nine "
✓ R. Mathison " Thirty four "

For Vice President

✓ Gardner Elliot received Forty Nine Votes
W. A. Piper " Eleven "
Peter Donohue " Eight "

For Recording Secretary

✓ P. B. Dexter Received Sixty Votes

For Corresponding Secretary

✓ H. R. Williams received Sixty Votes

For Treasurer

✓ Eli Cook received twenty six votes
J. O'Brien " Eleven "

C. A. Gough received Nineteen Votes
G. H. Hosselfross " Thirteen "

For Directors

✓ C. L. Taylor received Fifty Six Votes
✓ Wm. McKibbin " Fifty Three "
✓ D. Van Pelt " Fifty Two "
✓ G. D. Street " Forty Nine "
✓ J. C. Kincaid " Forty Seven "
✓ P. P. Swett " Forty "
✓ Jonathan Kittredge " Thirty four "
Wm. Andrews " Twenty four "
A. Frost " Twenty One "
John O'Brien " Twenty One "
R. R. Williams " Twenty "

The judges therefore reported that R. Mathison having received the highest number of votes cast for President was duly elected to that Office for the Current year.

That Gardner Elliot was duly elected Vice President in like manner

That P. B. Dexter was duly elected Recording Secretary.

That H. R. Williams was duly elected Corresponding Secretary.

That Eli Cook was duly elected Treasurer.

That Messrs C. L. Taylor Wm. McKibbin, D. Van Pelt, G. D. Street, J. C. Kincaid, P. P. Swett and Jonathan Kittredge were duly elected Directors for the Current year.

The Officers elect having been notified to meet the following evening at the Rooms, and there being no further business before the Institute it adjourned to the next regular meeting the first Wednesday in April.

P. B. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Thursday Afternoon March 6/56

On this day the Officers of the Institute, elected last evening, met for the purpose of organizing and arranging the Several Committees.

Present the President, Vice President Treasurer and the following Directors. Viz— Messrs. Kincaid, Kittredge, McKibbin, Street, and Van Pelt.

The President on taking the Chair made a few appropriate remarks, and then proceeded to organize the new Board of Directors, by appointing the following Committees as provided for in Article 2. of the By-Laws

Committee on
Library, Reading Room & Building—
Mess. Street
Kincaid
Swett

Committee on
Ways & Means and Accounts.
Mess. McKibbin
Van Pelt
Kittredge

Committee on
Books and Donations
Mess. Taylor
Kincaid
Kittredge

On motion it was voted that the Secretary notify the members of the Board of their appointments on the above Committees—

On motion of Mr. McKibbin it was voted to adjourn until tomorrow, (Friday) at 4 O'Clock. P. M.

E. Cook Sec. pro tem

Hall of the Institute

Friday March 7th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary & Treasurer, and the following Directors answered to their names on Calling the roll by the Secretary, Viz Mess. Kincaid, Kittredge, McKibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt.

Reports from Committees were Called for.

Committee on Library Reading Room & Building— No report.

Committee of Ways and Means and Acct No report.

Committee on Books & Donations. No report.

New business.

Mr. McKibbin suggested, that as the Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts as at present organized was made to consist of three of the same Craft, a transfer of at least one member from the Committee should be made, and another appointed to his place.

The President then ~~stated~~ changed Mr. Kincaid from the Committee on Books & Donations, & placed him on the Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts, and Mr. Kittredge was placed on the Committee on Books & Donations, having been taken from Com. on Ways & Means & Accounts

Mr. McKibbin proposed a change of the hour and day of meeting of the Board, which after eliciting some remarks from several Directors was put in form of a motion, that for the present the Board shall hold its semimonthly meetings on the Second and fourth mondays of each month & at 4 O'Clock P.M. which motion prevailed.

The Treasurer Mr. Cook, stated that before filing his bond, as required in Article 7. Section

8. of the Constitution he desired to submit to the Board for its approval, the names of two friends who had signified their readiness to become sureties for him to the Institute, viz. Messrs. J. E. Davis and John Brannan, whereupon on motion the gentlemen named were held as sufficient security on the bond of the Treasurer about to be filed.

Mr. Street enquired if under the the general law governing corporate bodies any restrictions could be imposed as to who should or should not become members of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco.

The President answered that under the general law all stock was transferable, and the Institute could not bar any one from purchasing shares therein.

A Conversation arose among the members as to the policy of ~~the~~ continuing the course of free lectures before the Institute, when, after an animated discussion, the subject, on motion of Mr. Taylor was laid over to the next meeting of the Board.

On motion the Board adjourned to Monday March the 10th at 4 O'clock P.M.

W. B. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Monday March the 10th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

The Board was called to order by the Vice President when on calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names. Viz Messrs. Kincaid, Kittredge, McKibbin, Street, Swett, Taylor and Van Pelt. Also present the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

Reports from Standing Committees being called for, Mr. McKibbin from Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts, laid before the Board the following bills which upon examination the Committee had found correct, and recommended that they be paid.

J. Brannan bill for Rent of Room for March (No. 1.) $25.00
Bulletin for printing annual election notice (No. 2) 5.00

On motion it was voted that an Order be drawn on the Treasurer for the same.

Mr. Street from Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, reported progress and asked for further time. Report received and time granted.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations submitted the following Suggestions.

Your Committee on Books and Donations respectfully submit the following Suggestions,

Under the present impoverished Condition of the finances of the Institute we cannot recommend the purchase of any books for the Library. We would then respectfully suggest to our co-workers in the Board, as also to the Members ~~of the members~~ of the Institute, the urgent necessity of increasing our library, and to this end we would urge upon each and every member to avail themselves of every proper occasion to solicit donations of Books and other articles applicable to the Library Reading Room and Cabinet.

C. L. Taylor
D. Van Pelt
Jno. Kittredge } Comm.

Unfinished business was taken up. The subject of lectures laid over from the last meeting was discussed, and on motion of Mr. Street was laid upon the table.

New business being in order Mr. Taylor stated that Mr. Stone had proffered to present to the Institute a bound Copy of the Price Current for 1854 – as also a copy of the same, unbound for 1855. and enquired whether the Board regarded the unbound Copy for 1855 of sufficient value to the Institute to justify the expense of binding. After some Conversation among the members, it was voted, on Mr. Swett's motion, to receive ~~both~~ the bound and unbound Copies. An interesting discussion here arose, in which all the members of the Board participated as to the line of policy to be pursued which would most speedily and certainly advance the interests of the Institute, and make it the pride of the Mechanics of the City. Mr. Van Pelt thought that much could be accomplished by the individual exertion of the members, ~~[illegible]~~. that the membership in this way could be greatly enlarged, and delinquent shareholders be induced to pay up the installments already called for on their stock and their quarterly assessments. Mr. Street concurred in the views and suggested that each member of the Board pledge himself to procure five additional members ~~on~~ on or before the next meeting of the Institute. Mr. Kincaid suggested that in order to make known to the Mechanics of the City the objects and purposes of the Institute a liberal distribution of Copies of the Constitution and By-laws should be made. Mr. McKibbin thought that if a life membership in the Institute could be purchased for fifty Dollars, many would be induced to pay that sum, who now hold back, and with a view to that end he moved that the Board of Directors recommend

to the Institute at its next meeting, that Article 3. Section 6. of the Constitution be so amended as to allow a person to become a life member on the payment of Fifty Dollars. The motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Van Pelt the Board adjourned, to monday next the 17th Inst. at 4 O'Clock P.M.

T. B. Taylor Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Monday March 17th 1856 –

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, and on calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, Messrs Kincaid, Street, Swett, Taylor and Van Pelt.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from standing Committees being in order, Mr. Street from the Committee on ~~Library~~ Reading Room and Building, stated that after much diligent search and enquiry, and a careful examination of several buildings in various locations and having in view the embarrassed condition of the Treasury, the Committee had finally selected the suite of rooms on the second floor of Mr. Polhemus' building, on California, between Montgomery and Sansom Streets. # The second story of this building, # the east half of # is seventy five feet by about Sixteen or eighteen feet, and may be rented for seventy five Dollars per month. One room of this suite is at present occupied by Messrs. Williams and Houston, ~~who~~ pay a monthly rent of thirty Dollars, and who will continue to occupy it at the same rent, thus reducing the rent ~~to be~~ paid by the Institute, to forty five Dollars, and still afford ample room to meet the present wants of the Institute.

Some repairs must necessarily be made in order to adapt it to our wants and render it convenient and comfortable which can probably be done at a cost of about seventy five Dollars, which sum, it is agreed, shall be deducted from the first

monthly rent. The gas fixtures contemplated to be placed in the rooms to be occupied by the Institute, will remain, when we shall remove to a Hall of our own.

Mr. Taylor moved that the report of the Committee be received. Which motion prevailed.

Mr. Van Pelt then moved that the Committee be authorized to close the arrangement with Mr. Polhemus on the terms proposed. Carried.

Accounts. Committee of Ways and Means and made no report.

Committee on Books and Donations, no report.

Mr. Cook, Treasurer laid before the Board his Bond, as required in Art. 7. Section 8. of the Constitution, which on motion was accepted, and ordered to be entered upon the minutes.

Treasurer's Bond.

Know all men by these presents that we Eli Cook, Isaac E. Davis, and John Brannan, all of the City and County of San Francisco and state of California, are held and firmly bound unto George D. Street, Wm M. Ribbin, Charles L. Taylor, John E. Kincaid, Jonathan Nittredge, D. P. Swett and Daniel Van Pelt, of the same place, the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, in the full and just sum of Three Thousand Dollars, to be paid to the aforesaid Board of Directors, their assigns, or successors, to which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators; ~~and every~~ of them, firmly, jointly, and severally by these presents, Sealed with our Seals, and dated this tenth day of March, A. D. 1856.

The Condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above bounden Eli Cook, his heirs executors, administrators or any of them, shall well and truly perform, any, every and all of the duties appertaining to the office of Treasurer of said

Mechanics Institute, as laid down and defined in the present Constitution and By-laws of said Institute, and pay out, properly disburse, and satisfactorily account for all moneys and funds that may come into his hands as Treasurer of said Institute, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of
Luther Munger
John Turner

Eli Cook (L.S.)
Isaac E. Davis (L.S.)
John Brennan (L.S.)

Mr. Street moved to take from the table the subject of lectures laid over at the last meeting of the Board, which motion having prevailed, and the subject discussed, was again, on motion laid upon the table. The discussion of the subject of lectures called forth many suggestions of value to the Institute. Mr. Street stated that he was in favor of lectures, that those already delivered before the Institute had been productive of good, inasmuch as they had been a means of making our organization known, and had thus added considerably to the number of stockholders. Mr. Shepherd was at the service of the Institute, and would give his lecture on "Aristocracy," before it, at any time, when called upon, and thought that at even fifty cents per ticket, Musical Hall could be filled.

Mr. Van Pelt stated that as a member of the Committee of Ways and Means he should not oppose any measure or lecture the proceeds of which would probably leave a margin for the Treasury. Mr. Taylor thought the matter had better lay over for the present, and suggested that in order to raise a sum sufficient to meet the immediate wants of the Institute, a Committee should

be appointed by the Board, whose duty it should be to solicit subscriptions from the Citizens of San Francisco, and instruct them to receive any amounts which may be offered, and in this way raise a sum sufficient to purchase a lot on which to build a hall. The lot once secured, he knew lumbermen who would furnish the necessary lumber, and doubted not the mechanics of the City would put up such Hall as should be determined upon by the Institute.

It was suggested by others that many men of large means in the City would subscribe liberally to aid the Institute to secure the lot and then, there would be no difficulty in erecting the necessary building. That many mechanics would furnish a given amount of labor, and perhaps material for the Erection of a Hall suitable to the future wants of the Institute, and receive Stock in payment.

Mr. Van Pelt moved that a Committee be appointed to solicit subscriptions for the purchase of a lot, on which to put up a Hall.

Mr. Swett moved to amend, by making it the duty of the Committee to first ascertain the Cost and location of the proposed lot, and then proceed to solicit subscriptions, which amendment being accepted, the motion was Carried.

The Committee was made to Consist of the President, Vice President, and Corresponding Secretary.

Mr. Taylor moved that a notice of the proposed removal of the Institute from its present rooms be made through the several City papers, a week prior to the next regular meeting of the Institute. Carried.

Mr. Taylor moved that the Board of Directors recommend to the Institute at its next regular meeting, that the title, The Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco be changed to The California Mechanics Institute, and after

stating to the Board his reasons for desiring the proposed change, the motion was concurred in.

Learning that the present legislature would probably make an appropriation in aid of the State Agricultural Society, Mr. Street moved that the Committee of Ways and means be instructed to memorialize the legislature and ask for a portion, a pro rata portion of the five thousand Dollars about to be voted to that society. Carried.

On asking for instructions from the Board as to the length of time for which to lease the Rooms from Mr. Polhemus, it was stated that the whole matter was in the hands of the Reading Room and Building Committee, and they were enjoined to exercise a sound discretion.

On motion the Institute adjourned to the first Tuesday in April at 7½ O'Clock P. M.

(P B Dexter)

Hall of the Institute.
Tuesday March the 25th 1856.

The Board met in pursuance of a call of the President.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names. viz. Messrs. Kincaid, Kittredge, McKibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt.

There were also present the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

The reading of the proceedings of the last meeting of the Board was dispensed with.

The President stated that the Directors had been called together for the purpose of considering the lien law introduced into the legislature of California, on the 9th of February, by Mr. George and for other business that would be brought before the Board.

A copy of the above act was read by the Secretary, when it was ordered that it be ~~taken~~ ~~up~~ section by section, and its several provisions considered.

An interesting discussion on the general merits of the bill arose, in which the several members of the Board participated, and on invitation the Vice President and Corresponding Secretary gave their views as to the sufficiency of the bill to secure to sub-contractors and laborers payment for materials furnished and labor performed.

Mr. Van Pelt thought that the provisions of the present bill, though differing in language, did not differ very materially in spirit, from the present lien law of the State, which all acknowledged to be defective. That though the first section declared that the Contractor, Sub-Contractor and laborer should have a lien on the building, wharf or other structure on which labor had been performed, ~~or for~~ which material had been furnished, yet this was so modi

fied and explained in subsequent sections, as to leave room for lawyers to set aside the declared intention of the bill.

The Vice President stated that the bill before the Board had been drawn up by an able lawyer, and its several provisions carefully considered at a meeting of the Mechanics of the City, and by them approved. In attentively looking over the bill, he thought it embodied all that was contemplated in the first section, viz. that he who furnished materials for, or he who performed labor on any building or other superstructure should be fully secured by a lien on the same. His only fear was, that on account of the very excellence of the bill in its several provisions in behalf of the laborer and sub contractor, that it would meet with opposition in the legislature.

Mr. Taylor concurred with the views expressed by Mr. Van Pelt, as to the advantage which might be taken of the not very explicit language employed in several sections of the bill, and thought, to avoid litigation, that a lien law should be so plainly and perspicuously worded as to admit of no cavilling or dispute as to its declared intention and obvious meaning.

Mr. Street spoke to the merits of the bill before the Board, and thought that, taken as a whole, it would meet the wants of the Mechanics and laborers, whose just claims, under the present lien law, had too often been set aside. He was in favor of returning the Bill to the proper Committees of the two houses, or to the delegation from San Francisco, with the endorsement of the Board.

Mr. McKibbin, had thought on first hearing the Bill read, that room was left for cavilling as to the meaning of some of its provisions, and though he was not wholly satisfied, yet he was not inclined to oppose this, which was, to say the least, an evident improvement on the present law. He did not know that any law could be so framed that an ingenious lawyer could not quibble at.

The Corresponding Secretary expressed the belief that the bill in review before the Board was sufficient, and trusted it would receive the endorsement of the Directors.

Calling the Vice President to the chair the President argued the sufficiency of the bill in review before the Board, and urged that those provisions which had met with most opposition, were intended to protect the property holder from the Contractor, whose rights in a bill of this kind could not be overlooked, and that as far as he could judge from hearing it read, he thought, while the mechanic and laborer were fully secured, the property holder was protected from the faithlessness of an irresponsible contractor.

The motion was then put, shall this bill be approved by the Board of Directors? which was carried affirmatively.

Whereupon the following resolution was read, and on motion was adopted, and the Corresponding Secretary instructed to forward a copy to each of the delegation from the City and County of San Francisco, in the assembly of the State.

Resolved, That the Mechanics Institute representing the Mechanics of the City and County of San Francisco, cordially approve the provisions of an Act entitled an Act, "For securing liens to mechanics and others", introduced by

Mr. George into the Assembly of California, February the 9th 1856. and hereby request their Senators and representatives to exert all their influence towards securing the passage of the said Act.

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, asked instructions from the Board in relation to the manner of fitting up the room or Hall to which the Institute is about to remove.

After some remarks by Messrs Mc Kibbin, Van Pelt and Kincaid, recommending economy, the matter was left to the sound discretion of the Committee in whose care the business of fitting up of Hall and removal of the Institute was properly placed.

Mr. Street offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Institute the propriety of amending the Constitution so as to make the Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer members of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Van Pelt called the attention of the Board to its action at its last meeting, instructing the Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts to ask from the legislature a pro rata of the appropriation of $5000. about to be made to the State Agricultural Society.

Some conversation was had among the members of the Board as to the policy of making this demand, at this time, inasmuch as the Agricultural Society about to be benefitted was called the State Agricultural Society, whereas we were known as the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco. the one was called a State Society, while the other was in its title, local.

It was urged, that should the Institute assent to, so to change the title by which it was now distinguished, and adopt as its style the "California Mechanick Institute", as recommended by the Board at its last meeting, it would relieve the Institute of any prejudice that might attach to a mere local association, as ours was, would in its title, at least assume the character of a State Institution like the State Agricultural Society, and would give to it the character of parent of other like associations, now being established in other sections of the State, and entitle it to take precedence of them at any state fairs which may hereafter be authorized to be holden in California.

Whereupon Mr. Mc Kibbin moved that the Committee of Ways and Means and accounts act promptly in the matter of applying for a portion of the above appropriation, which motion prevailed.

On motion the President was added to the Committee, to act with them in carrying out the above resolution.

On motion the Board adjourned.

(P. Dexter) Sec.

Tuesday April the 1st 1856

Present the President Vice President Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and the following Directors, viz Mess. Taylor Swett & Van Pelt.

There not being a Constitutional quorum, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, April the 15th at 7½ O'clock P.M.

(P. Dexter) Sec.

Hall of the Institute April the 2nd 1856

The Institute met and was called to order by the President.

Present the elective Officers and a quorum of the members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The President in an elegant address set forth the objects and purposes of the Institute, and suggested a policy necessary to be pursued to ensure its successful and permanent establishment. This being the first meeting of the Institute since the annual election of Officers, he spoke in terms of commendation of the action of the late officers and Board of Directors, and urged a zealous effort on the part of the members to enlarge the membership.

The Proceedings of the Board of Directors since the last meeting of the Institute were read, in order to make known to the members of the Institute, the action of the Board, on the several matters of general interest which had been brought before it.

Reports of Committees being in order Mr. Street, from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building stated that the Bills from the parties employed to put up the present hall had not yet been handed in, and asked for further time, which was granted.

Mr. McKibbin from the Committee on Ways & Means and Accounts, stated that the Committee had no new business matured and asked for further time, which was granted.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, exhibited a map of the City of San Francisco, compiled by B. F. Butler, which had been generously donated to the Institute by Samuel Brannan Esq.

Whereupon it was ordered that the Corresponding Sec. communicate to Mr. Brannan the thanks of the Institute for his valuable contribution.

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Board of Directors, Mr. Taylor gave notice to the Institute, of a proposed amendment to the Constitution, whereby its name should be changed to the "California Mechanics Institute".

Mr. Street gave notice of an amendment to the Constitution to the effect that the Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer be made Directors.

Mr. Purkitt gave notice of a further amendment to the Constitution, whereby a life membership in the Institute may be purchased on the payment of Fifty dollars.

The Corresponding Secretary read several communications, one of which was from the Massachusetts Mechanics Association of Boston, another from Mr. Shaw on the Mechanics lien law, now pending in the Legislature. Also a letter from the same gentleman to Mr. McKibbin Chairman of the Committee of Ways & Means of the Board of Directors, assuring the Board of his readiness to move an appropriation in favor of the Institute.

On motion of Dr. Peck it was voted that the thanks of the Institute be tendered to the retiring officers of the Institute, who for the past year have so faithfully and efficiently managed its affairs.

Mr. Peck made some valuable suggestions in reference to a reading Room, spoke of it as a means of improvement, accessible to all.

Mr. Purkitt urged, that at a comparatively trifling expense a mass of newspaper and periodical literature could be had, and hoped at an early day to see the Reading Room well filled with the current periodicals of the day.

Mr. R. R. Williams moved that the Com

mittee on Books and Donations procure for the use of the Members Newspapers and Periodicals not to exceed twenty five dollars per month.

Mr. Sime moved an Amendment, that the Board of Directors be instructed to procure newspapers &c as the Committee on Books and Donations were not a Committee of the Institute, but of the Board.

A debate hereupon arose in which Mess Sime, H. B. Williams, Peck & Purkitt participated. Mr. R. R. Williams withdrew his motion, which was renewed in the following words by Mr Purkitt. Resolved that that the Board of Directors be instructed to cause the Committee on Books and Donations to procure the current Newspaper and Periodical literature of the day, not to exceed $25. per month, as soon as the funds of the Institute will warrant. which was carried.

Mr. Sime moved that the notices given of amendments to the Constitution, to be acted upon at the next meeting of the Institute, be submitted in writing.

Whereupon Mr. Taylor submitted in writing the following.

I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Institute, I shall move to to strike out from Art. 1st Section 1st of the Constitution the words, Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco" and insert "California Mechanics Institute".

Mr. Street also submitted the following

I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Institute, I shall move that Article 7. Section 1st of the Constitution be so changed, as to make the Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer members of the Board of Directors

Mr. Purkitt in accordance with the above ruling submitted the following.

I hereby give notice that at the next

regular meeting of the Institute, I will propose to amend Article 3. Section 6. of the Constitution, by striking out the words, "One hundred", and substituting the word "fifty".

There being no further business before the Institute it adjourned to the first Wednesday in May

(T B Taylor) Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday April the 15th 1856.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, and on calling the roll the following members answered to their names, viz. Mess. Kittredge, McKibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved.

Reports from standing Committees were called for, Whereupon Mr. Street from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, stated that the Committee, of which he was Chairman, had no business matured, and asked for further time, which was granted.

Mr. McKibbin from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, submitted the monthly statement of the Librarian, from which it was shown that the Collections for the month of March amounted to One hundred and ninety nine Dollars. He stated that the Committee had been engaged in the preparation of a report which would be submitted for the Consideration of the Board at its next meeting. Further time was asked and granted.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, made the following report.

Your Committee on Books and Donations respectfully submit the following report.

Your Committee have had under advisement, the matter referred to the Board of Directors, by the Institute at its late meeting, in regard to furnishing our Reading Room with newspapers and other periodicals, not to exceed twenty five dollars per month, a list of which we submit for your revision.

We here annex the bids received for the

number already selected.

Mr. Sullivan agrees to furnish monthly, the newspapers, Magazines, and reviews contained in the list accompanying this report, for $28.40

Mr. Kimball of the Noisy Carrier Co. will furnish the same for $28.00.

We find there has already been subscribed by individual members of the Institute, about forty one Dollars, which will probably be increased, and we recommend that the amount subscribed over and above the sum necessary to supply the Reading Room with the necessary periodicals, be used toward fitting up the room with ~~the~~ file rods and other necessary Conveniences.

On motion the report was received, and the recommendation adopted.

The Committee submitted the following memorandum of Donations made to the Institute since the former report. Viz.

Mr. E. A. Fuller presents,
Shelleys Poetical works.

Mr. G. B. Haywood presents
Several small works on Phonography.

Mr. John Turner presents
Cabinet of Extracts. 1 vol.
Fern leaves from Fanny's Port Folio.
Napoleon in Exile, by O'Meara 2 vol
Shaws Journal, with memoir
Itinerary of Lancashire
Prays Prose and Poetry.
Our Honey Moon, from Punch
Patent Office Reports. 2 vols

Mr. T. A. Miller presents
California Illustrated 1 vol
Twelve Dramas, in pamphlet form.

Mr. R. Matheson presents.
Specimens of Copper Ore.
Spanish Coin of 1711. a Carolus.

Mr. S. Brannan presents
Butler's map of the City of San Francisco
Mr. E. Cook presents
An Indian Utensil, in Stone from Puget sound.
Mr. I. C. Stone presents
1 Copy of Prices Current for 1854. bound
1 " " " 1855. unbound
Mr. Thomas Gray presents
Annual Report of the Surveyor General.

On motion the report was received, the donations accepted, and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

Mr. Van Pelt suggested that inasmuch as to render the reading room comfortable and convenient it would require a considerable outlay of money, and, as was known to the Board, the treasury was well nigh empty, it had been deemed advisable to authorize the secretary to procure individual subscriptions of small sums to be paid monthly by members, until the Institute shall be in a condition to relieve them of the tax voluntarily imposed. In behalf of the Committee he asked that the list of newspapers, magazines, and reviews which accompanied the report, which had just been read, might be examined, and if deemed advisable, to suggest additions, or exchanges of certain papers ~~which~~ appeared on the list, for others which had been overlooked by the Committee.

Mr. McKibbin thought the matter in very good hands and moved that the subject be left to the known good judgement and taste of the Committee, which motion prevailed.

New business was called for.

Whereupon Mr. McKibbin suggested that the course of lectures be continued, and that a moderate fee for admission be demanded ~~for~~ Some little exertion on the part of members would secure the sale of such number of tickets as would afford a handsome

revenue to the Institute. Moreover he thought no time should be lost in preparing a circular addressed to the Mechanics of the City, inviting them to unite with us in building up an association of which the City might justly feel proud.

Mr. H. P. Williams from the special Committee appointed to solicit subscriptions for the purchase of a lot whereon to build a Hall for the use of the Institute, stated that he had received a proposition from a Mr. Clark, the owner of the half of a fifty vara on the North East Corner of Pine & Leidesdorff sts. That Mr. Clark had offered to sell to the Institute the said lot, on ten years time, for twenty five thousand Dollars, with interest at the rate of ten per cent per Annum. That the Interest should be calculated after three months from the time the building should be commenced.

Messrs Van Pelt and Street thought the terms proposed were unfavorable to the Institute, that the lot offered was not worth the price demanded, even on the terms proposed, and thought that a lot of the same size and in a more desirable location, and on terms equally favorable to the Institute could be had for much less money.

The matter was laid over.

Mr. Taylor moved, and the motion prevailed, that the secretary be authorized to contract with some Book binder for the binding of the several files of newspapers, provided payment can be made, on subscriptions to the stock of the Institute.

Mr. McKibbin stated that in the membership of the Institute almost every state of the union was represented, and as he thought it desirable that the library should contain a copy of the revised laws of the several states, he moved that the corresponding secretary address the Governor of each and solicit a donation to the Institute, of the revised laws of this state. Which motion prevailed.

There being no further business before the Board, it adjourned to Tuesday evening the 29th Inst. at 8. O'clock P. M.

(P. B. Sexton) Sec.

Omitted in its proper place April 15th

Mr. McKibbin from the Committee of Ways & Means and accounts presented the following bills against the Institute, which the Committee had examined, and found Correct, and recommended that they be paid.

Franklin Printing Office		
Printing 2000 Book labels	No. 3	$9.00
Secretary & Librarian —	No. 4	
Salary for January		125.00
Candles & Duster		10.75
Overpaid Treasurer (last return)		1.50
		$137.25

On motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the amount.

(P. B. Sexton Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Tuesday the 29th of April 1856

No quorum being present — The President ordered that a meeting of the Board be called for Thursday evening May the 1st Inst.

May the 1st 1856

Again no quorum.

Hall of the Institute
Wednesday May the 7th 1856

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President and a quorum of members.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved.

The minutes of the proceeding of the Board of Directors were also read.

There being no reports from the Standing Committees of the Board of Directors, the proposed amendments to the Constitution, notices of which were given at the last meeting of the Institute were taken up in order.

The notice of Mr. Taylor to amend Section 1. Article 1. of the Constitution by striking out the words "The Mechanic's Institute of the City of San Francisco" and substituting therefor, "The California Mechanics Institute" was read by the Secretary, when the President stated that for sufficient reasons Mr. Taylor had determined to withdraw his motion to amend, and in his absence he asked leave to withdraw the proposition. Leave was granted.

The notice submitted by Mr. Street at the last meeting to amend Section 1. Article (7) 7. of the Constitution, so as to make the Vice President Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer members of the Board of Directors, was then taken up.

Mr. Street asked and obtained leave to modify his proposition, so as to submit the Vice President first, and then should the Institute entertain his resolution, he would move that the Corresponding Secretary be also added to the Board.

The question was then put, Shall Article 7. Section 1. be so amended as to make the Vice President a member of the Board of Directors when the motion was lost.

Whereupon Mr. Street withdrew the remainder of his proposition.

The notice submitted at the last meeting of the Institute by Mr. Purkitt to amend Article 3. Section 6. of the Constitution, to strike out therefrom the words, "One hundred", and insert the word "fifty" was taken up and on motion of Mr. Street the proposed amendment was adopted. there being only one vote in the negative. The section as amended therefore will read as follows.

Section 6. Article 3. Any person not a stockholder may become a life member by paying "fifty Dollars" and enjoy all the privileges of membership except the right to vote and hold office.

Mr. Gough, late Treasurer submitted the following report, which on motion was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

C. A. Gough, Treasurer in account with the Mechanics Institute.

Receipts

Jan. 7/56.	By balance on hand	$21.48⅔
Feb. 26/56.	By cash (from Librarian)	203.00
		$224.48⅔

Disbursements

1856. Feb. 8th.	To cash paid per Order	(43) & Receipts attached.	$8.00
" "	" " " " "	(44) " "	40.00
" " 26	" " " " "	(45) " "	25.00
" "	" " " " "	(46) " "	$130.00
	Total		$203.00

Receipts	$224.48⅔
Disbursements	203.00
Balance	$21.48⅔

April 14/56	To cash pd. C. C. Cook, Treasurer	$21.48⅔
	By balance on hand	21.48⅔
	Balance	0000

C. A. Gough Treasurer

Mr. Street called the attention of the members of the Institute to a proposition which had been made to him by Mr. Russ, who, it is known is the owner of valuable property on Bush, between Montgomery and Kearney Streets.

Mr. Russ proposes to sell to the Institute a lot fronting on Bush Street, 78 ft. 6 inches & running back 137 ft. 6 inches - for about Eleven thousand five hundred Dollars, on ten years time, with interest at the rate of ten per cent per annum.

Mr. Street expressed the opinion that if the lot was once secured, the Mechanics of the City would soon unite and erect on it a building which would not only accommodate the Institute, with the necessary rooms, for Library - Reading Room, Committee Rooms &c &c, but would be a source of revenue in renting Hall, stores &c paying a handsome premium on the stock. He wished to hear the opinions of members on this matter. In his judgement he thought the best interests of the Institute demanded that prompt measures should be taken, and stock enough sold to purchase at least the lot, and in a few months we could have a Hall of our own.

From a calculation made not too favorable to the Institute, the net proceeds from rents, after deducting interest, taxes and incidental expenses would exceed eight thousand Dollars per Annum. thus rendering the shares of the Institute among the best paying stocks of the City -

The further consideration of the matter was laid over.

The President introduced to the Institute Mr. Warren, Editor of the "California Farmer", who was some time ago elected an "honorary member" of this Association, who in an interesting address, showed the advantages and benefits of this and

Kindred institutions, showed the intimate connexion of the Institute with the "State Agricultural Society, and expressed a wish to see the two associations united in a grand exhibition at the coming State fair. Mr. Warren advised the Institute that a formal invitation to unite with the Agricultural Society at the contemplated exhibition, would be given at an early day.

There being no further business before the Institute adjourned to the first Wednesday in June.

(T B Seyler. Sec.

adopted

Hall of the Institute
Tuesday evening May the 13th 1856.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President and the following Directors, viz- Mess. Kincaid, Mr Kibbin, Taylor and Van Pelt.

There being no quorum present, the President instructed the secretary to call a meeting of the Board tomorrow at 4 O'clock P. M.-

(T B Seyler Sec.

Wednesday May the 14th 1856.

The Board met in accordance of a call of the President.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz Messrs Kincaid, Mr Kibbin, Street, Taylor & Van Pelt.

The Board was called to order by the Secretary, whereupon Mr. Van Pelt was chosen President pro tem.

The minutes of the last regular meeting of the Board were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees being called for,

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building stated that the Committee had not prepared a written report of their action in reference to the fitting up of the Hall, but that the several bills they had made in furnishing the necessary fixtures and furniture, had for the most part been laid before the Committee of Ways and Means. The aggregate amount would be ascertained at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Mr. Street further stated that Mr. Russ had made a proposition to the Committee, which he deemed proper to lay before the Board, for its consideration. It was proposed to sell to the Institute a lot of ground on the north side of Bush Street, between Montgomery and Kearny, fronting 78 feet

on Bush Street, and running back 137 feet 6 inches for $11450 at ten years time, and at ten per cent interest per annum.

This proposition the Committee regarded as favorable to the Institute, and recommended that some action be taken by the Board in reference to it.

Should the directory determine to accede to the terms proposed, in less than one year the Institute would have a Hall of its own, the rents from which, after furnishing all the rooms its convenience or necessities might require, would amount to not less than $8000 per year, thus rendering the Stock which might be created in putting up a Suitable Hall, among the best paying in San Francisco.

At a meeting of the Board on the 17th of March, a Special Committee of three had been appointed, to make search for a lot in a desirable location, to learn the terms on which it might be purchased, and to solicit Subscriptions of Money to an amount necessary to secure it.

It was not the intention of the Committee on Reading Room and Building to interfere with the labors or duties of that Committee, but wished to call their attention to the propositions of Mr. Russ.

On enquiry made by Mr. Van Pelt, Mr. Street stated that the Committee of which he was chairman, merely desired to call the attention of the Special Committee to the lot spoken of.

Mr. McKibbin moved to accept the report of the Committee which motion prevailed.

Mr. McKibbin moved to blend the two Committees, the Standing Committee, and Special Committee appointed March the 17th which, after some discussion, was withdrawn:

Mr. Taylor thereupon moved that the Special Committee be instructed to act in concert with, and report through the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, which was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. McKibbin from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts made the following Report.

Your Committee to whom is entrusted the general Supervision of the financial department of the Institute, beg leave respectfully to make the following report.

There has been no regular account kept of the receipts and expenditures of the Institute, prior to the month of October, the treasurer Mr. Brooks, never having made to the Institute or Board of Directors any report or Statement of moneys received, or disbursed by him.

From the books of the Librarian it is shown that up to the 16th of October there had been Collected the sum of $599 and from that date to Nov. the 27th there was collected on the same account $467.50/100, making a total of $1066.50, of which amount there was in the Treasury at the last named date the sum of $32.48. Since which time the receipts & disbursements have been as follows.

Receipts

Nov. 27th/55.	By Cash on hand	$32.48
Dec. 24	Collected on Account of Stock	210.00
Jan. 22/56	" " " "	65.00
" "	" " Quarterly Assessments	115.00
February 26	" " Account of Stock	62.50
" "	" " " Quarterly dues	139.00
March 27	" " " Stock	60.00
" "	" " " Quarterly dues	139.00
		$822.98

Disbursements

Dec. 24th 1855	Aspin Librarians report	$210.00
Jan. 22. 1856	" " " "	168.00
Feb. 26	" " " "	203.00
March 27	" " " "	197.25
	Total Disbursements	$778.25
	Add Leconte + Strong's Bill	23.00
	Leaving a Balance in Treasury	$801.25
	Leaving a balance in the Treasury of	21.73
		$822.98

The Institute is indebted for fitting up the present Hall $140.00
Librarian's Salary for Feb. & March 250.00
Making a total of $390.00

The present number of Stockholders is two hundred and eighty two, of these one hundred and seventy five can be relied on for their quarterly assessments, amounting to $525.00

The expenses of the Institution per quarter, are as follows—

Rent of Hall	$150.00	
Librarians Salary	375.00	
Lights	75.00	
Stationery	6.00	606.00
Leaving a total deficit per quarter of		$81.00

Such being the case, your Committee do not think it advisable to give any more free lectures, but recommend in their stead, that a course of lectures be given, say six in number, (not more than two in any one quarter,) and that the price of tickets be fixed at fifty cents each. To avoid assessing the Stockholders more than their quarterly dues, we propose that all members who have paid their assessments, and who take four or more tickets, be credited one dollar on their quarterly assessments, and in case there should be two or more lectures given during the quarter, that they be credited in the same

ratio. By this means we think a handsome revenue might be raised each quarter, and the share holders almost wholly relieved from tax.

We also recommend that each member of the Institute be allowed the privilege of putting up an order or letter box in the Reading Room, for which permission he shall pay the sum of fifty cents per month. From this source we think a revenue of from fifteen to twenty dollars per month might be easily derived, and the parties interested be materially benefitted thereby.

Your Committee further recommend that the Board of Directors have two thousand circulars printed, setting forth the objects and purposes of the Institute, and the advantages it is designed to confer upon its members, and that the said circular may be properly distributed, we propose that each ward of the City be formed into a district, and that the Board of Directors be authorized to appoint five members in each district, to be styled a Committee of Canvassers, whose duty it shall be to solicit subscribers and members in their respective districts— and report at least once a month to the Recording Secretary. The said Committee to be under the immediate Control of the Board of Directors.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Wm McKibbin
O. Van Pelt
J. E. McCaid.

On motion it was voted that the report be received and spread upon the minutes.

Whereupon the Recording Secretary was instructed to draft a circular in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee.

The appointment of the District Committee was laid over to the next meeting.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on

Book and Donations presented a report of the contributions which had been made to the Library and Cabinet since the last meeting of the Board.

Presented by F. A. Miller –

Gil Blas – (in Spanish) 1 vol
A Bulletin Board

" by Captain Gove
A Cabista made from the hair of the Convicts in the Prison at San Quentin.

" by E. A. Buller
A specimen of Cinnabar

" by R. Matheson
A stone of singular formation from the Geysers in Napa County

" by E. Cook
An Irish Penny –

" by P. B. Dexter
Specimens of Branch Coral from the Sandwich Islands
Specimen of Chrystalized Sulphur taken from within the Crater of the Volcano of Mauna Loa. Sandwich Islands
A piece of Lava from the above Volcano.

" by John A. Brewer
Surveyor General's Annual Report.

On motion the report of the Committee was received, the Articles Contributed were accepted, and the thanks of the Board voted to the Donors.

There being no further business before the Board, it adjourned to Wednesday evening next at 8 o'Clock.

(P. B. Dexter) Sec.

May 21st Wednesday evening – no quorum
" 27th Tuesday evening – no quorum

Hall of the Institute
May the 29th 1856.

The Board met in accordance with a call of the President.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz – Messrs Kincaid, McKibbin, Street, Smith, Daylor & Van Pelt.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees were called for. Whereupon Mr. McKibbin from the Committee of Ways and means and Accounts, laid before the Board the monthly statement of the Librarian showing the Amt. Collected by him since his last report to be from Monthly dues $176.00
" Installments on Stock 32.50
Total Amt. Collected as above $208.50

The following Bills were laid before the Board and on motion it was voted that an Order be drawn on the Treasurer for the Amounts, viz –

Salary of Sec. & Librarian for February	$125.00		No. 5
Frost & Richards Bill for Painting	10.00		No. 6
Hall & O'Brien's " " Gas Fitting	20.00		No. 7
F. Baker's No. 8 a Carpet & Shades	49.00	$1400	
Balance		$4.50	

Committee on Library Reading Room & Building no Report.

Committee on Books & Donations through its Chairman, Mr. Daylor laid before the Board the following memorandum of Books and other articles which had been presented to the Institute since the last meeting of the Board.

Presented by A. S. Dexter
Stuarts Naval Dry Docks of the U. S –
Fremonts Exploring expedition in 1842.
Treatise on the Political economy of Rail Roads
Documents on Ohio Canals.

Programme de Construction, French.
Graham's Mexican Boundary.
Mathematics for practical men.
Hydraulics by Matthews.
Hutton Mathematics.
U.S. Engineer Department for 1828-9-1838.
" " " " 1837-8-1840.
Isometrical Drawing by Dopwith.
History of the Erie & Champlain Canals, 2 vols
N.Y. Canal Commissioners Report for 1842
Tracts on Hydraulics.
Nicholson on Stone cutting & Masonry.
Smeaton on Mills.
Vicat on Cements.
Buckland's Geology and mineralogy. 2 vol
Potter on Mortars.
Sganzier on Civil engineering.
Rail Road for 1837
Engineers & Architects Journal. 3 vol
Haller's Logarithms.
Pambour on Locomotive Engines.
Mifflins Method of Location for Railways.
Peasley on Cements, &c
Dr. Lardners Steam Engine.
Bevoard's Arithmetical Perspective.
Tosta & Whitney's Maps and two others.
Documentary History of N.Y. 1st Vol.
Analytic Trigonometry.
The Practice of Isometrical Perspective.
Lecount on Railways.
Barlow on Strength of Materials.
Treatise on Bridges. 5 Nos
" Oblique Arches by Hart.
Gilbert on Railways.
Turnbull on Cast Iron Beams.
Civil Engineers Journal for 1841 & 1842.
N.Y. State Institution of Civil Engineers
View of the Port of Sitka

Presented by the Noisy Carriers Co.
An Italian-French Dictionary.
A. French Italian do
Presented by E. Cook.
A small Silver Coin.

On motion the report of the Committee was received, the articles donated accepted, and the thanks of the Board voted to the Donors.

The Secretary stated to the Board that the circular ordered at thinlast meeting was in progress and would be ready in a few days.

Mr. Street called the attention of the Board to the proposition of Mr. Russ in reference to a lot for the Institute on Bush between Montgomery & Kearney Streets, and urged prompt action thereon. This called forth an animated discussion of the policy of erecting a Hall at an early day, in which all the Directors and the President participated. The subject was laid over for the future action of the Board.

On motion it was ordered that the Board hold its Semi-monthly meetings on the Second & fourth Fridays of each month.

On motion the Board adjourned subject to the Call of the President.

(W. Dexter) Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday June the 4th 1856

There being no quorum the ~~Institute~~ meeting adjourned to the next regular monthly meeting – the 2nd day of July –

T. Roberts Sec.

Friday June the 13th 1856 –

The Board met in accordance with a resolution passed on its meeting of the 29th ult. being the second Friday in the month.

Present the President and the following Directors viz. Messrs Van Polk, Street, Taylor Kincaid & McRibbin –

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from the standing Committees of the Board being in order, the Committee on Books and Donations submitted the following memorandum of books donated to the Library viz –

Presented by C. H. Little

New Church Essays	1	vol
Des Guaye Letters	2	copies
Biography of Swedenborg	1	"
Religion of good sense	1	–
New Church Miscellanies	1	–
Brief Sketch of the life & Character of Em. Swedenborg	1	–
Sermon on Heaven	1	–
Reasons for connection with New Church	1	–
Treatise on Heaven & Hell	2	–
Divine Providence	1	–
Beauty for Ashes	1	–

Power of Kindness	1	copy
Healing of the Nations	1	–
Bards of the bible	1	–
Paley's Philosophy	1	–
Uses & Abuses of Air	1	–
American Antiquities	1	–
Practical Perspective	1	–

From the Massachusetts Mech. Association –

Annual of the Association –	1	–
Reports of Several exhibitions	1	–

On motion the report was received, the books were accepted and the thanks of the Board were voted to the donors. It was further ordered that the corresponding secretary ~~communicate~~ acknowledge to the above named parties the receipt of the books and communicate thanks &c

Committee of Ways & Means and Accounts. No Report

Committee on Library Reading Room & Building. No Report.

The Secretary read the following circular which had been prepared by order of the Board at its meeting of May 13th.

Hall of the Mechanics Institute.

To the Mechanics of San Francisco –

The Board of Directors and Officers of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco desire to advise their fellow craftsmen throughout the city of the formation of the abovenamed association, and to call the attention of all to the propriety and importance of their being members of it, and thus become the recipients of its benefits, and by means of their influence and individual exertions aid in extending its usefulness throughout the state.

As the first and perhaps the only organization of its kind upon the Pacific, and as the only association devoted to the promotion of the best interests of the Me

chanical classes, it should commend itself to their regard as a means of great good, in advancing the prosperity of its members, and all who come within the sphere of its influence.

There can be no class of the community who reap greater practical benefit from the study of literature, the arts and sciences, than the Mechanic who has the ability to appreciate, and the skill to ~~apply~~ adapt his learning to the advancement of the particular art in which he may be engaged.

The Mechanics Institute of this City, was called into existence for the purpose of elevating the dignity of that class of the Community for whom it was designed, was intended to furnish them the place and opportunity of frequent interchange of views, as a means of extending information, and of cultivating the literary taste of its members by furnishing to their hours of leisure such agreeable inducements for mental improvement as may be found in the perusal of a well stored and choice library of books, and in a museum of the wonderful and ingenious productions of the realms of nature and the world of Art.

Our Association was organized by the election of its Officers on the 29th day of March 1855, and now numbers two hundred and ninety members. Any person may become a member of the Institute by purchasing at least one share of its stock and paying three Dollars quarterly in advance. A share is valued at twenty five Dollars, 10 per cent of which (two dollars and fifty Cents,) must be paid at the time of signing the Constitution.

A small collection of well selected books has already been obtained, and is but the nucleus of a library which in time, may, it is hoped, become of great importance.

Our reading desks furnish all the current news of the world;

and our rooms spacious and pleasantly located, present an agreeable resort for spending a leisure hour in the cultivation of the mind, and in the interchange of social civilities.

Believing, as we do, that this association has within itself the capability of so much usefulness, we desire to see it extended and encouraged by the membership and assistance of all the Mechanical classes of the City, and for this purpose we send forth this address, inviting all to unite with us and join in advancing the interests, and extending the influence of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, until in importance, influence and usefulness, it shall vie with Institutions of a kindred character, established and supported by other prominent interests in the state.

We trust these hints and suggestions may awaken a proper emulation, and elicit the just pride of our mechanics, to make one united effort to place this Institution on a par with literary and scientific Institutions of like character in this and other states; and thus again demonstrate the fact, that while the Mechanics of San Francisco acknowledge no superior in art, no warmer admirers of literature, and no more zealous searchers after Scientific knowledge, they have few equals in enterprise and generous devotion to the advancement of the honor and dignity of the mechanical arts.

R. Matheson — President
G. Elliot — Vice President
P. B. Cutter — Rec. Secretary
H. T. Williams — Cor. do
E. Cook — Treasurer

Wm McKibbin — David Van Pelt, G. D. Street, C. L. Taylor, T. P. Swett, J. E. Kincaid and J. Kittredge — Directors.

In order to make known the terms and conditions of membership. Mr Street moved that section 1. of Article 3. of the Constitution be inserted after the word "members" in the fifth paragraph. Carried.

Mr Van Pelt moved farther to amend by substituting the word "few" for the word "no" in the third line from the bottom which motion prevailed.

The Circular was then accepted by the Board and on motion of Mr. Van Pelt two thousand Copies were ordered to be printed.

The Board then proceeded to appoint the several Canvassers of each ward of the City.

Ward 1. Canvassers for the first Ward.
Wm Andrews. D. D. Bunnell.
E. S. Graves J. R. Sims 3d, and
J. B. Carter & S. L. James

" 2 Canvassers for the Second Ward.
E. Bauers E. H. Gough
Wm B. Mayson Joseph Ross and
John S. Williams

" 3 Canvassers for the third Ward
J. A. Banks H. Frost John 2d Kehoe
J. W. Langee & A. McNally. J. R. Sims

" 4 Canvassers in the fourth Ward
G. A. Hosefoss. J. B. Quinton I. A. Moody
W. J. Lewis & W. H. Willard

" 5 Canvassers in the fifth Ward
H. E. Bills James Johnston J. Weber
A. M. Rosekrantz & John Robinett

" 6 Canvassers in the 6th Ward.
A. B. Brown John O'Brien. B. Collins
R. Driscoll & John Kennedy.

" 7 Canvassers in the Seventh Ward
P. Donohue. Edward Patten. B. Freeman
J. W. Farren & T. J. Gately

" 8 Canvassers in the eighth Ward

On motion it was voted that the Secretary notify the Canvassers above named of their appointment.

On motion the Board adjourned to the next regular meeting the 4th Friday in the month.

C. P. Bixby Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday evening June the 27th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the (President) and the following Directors Viz — Mess. Kincaid, Van Pelt, Mr. Kibbin, Taylor + Swett. #

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building laid before the Board a Contribution to the Cabinet from Mr. Vandewater, consisting of a fragment of rock from the original tomb of Washington at Mount Vernon, together with a small branch of a tree which ~~grew near~~ or overhung the tomb.

On motion the Contribution was accepted and the thanks of the Board voted to Mr. Vandewater.

Reports from standing Committees were not Called for.

In the absence of the President and vice President, the Board was Called to order by the Secretary, when on motion, Mr. Van Pelt was chosen President pro tem.

The Circulars not having all been printed, and but few having been placed in the hands of the Canvassers, ~~and no~~ new business having been prepared, the Directors occupied itself in discussing plans for the future growth and prosperity of the Institute.

The President appeared soon after the reading of the minutes, and took his seat among the Directors

Adjourned to the next regular night of meeting.

P. B. Dexter
Sec.

Hall of the Institute
Friday July the 11th 1856

Present the President and the following Directors, viz – Van Pelt, Kincaid, McKibbin & Swett – There not being a Constitutional quorum, to transact business, the President requested the Secretary to notify the Directors that a meeting of the Board would be held on monday evening June the 14th – to which time the meeting stood adjourned

P Dexter Sec.

Monday July 14th 1856 –

Two Directors only were present to day – viz Mess. Van Pelt and Street. Adjourned to the next regular meeting – July the 25th –

P Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Friday July the 25th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and the following Directors, viz – Mess – Van Pelt, McKibbin, Swett & Taylor.

A Constitutional quorum not being present, it was ordered by the President that a meeting of the Board be called on Wednesday next the 30th Inst. at 4 O'clock, P. M.

P Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Wednesday July 30th 1856

The Board met in pursuance of a call of the President –

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz. Messrs. Van Pelt, Kincaid, McKibbin, Street, and Taylor.

Present also the Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board was called to order by the Vice President.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board were read and approved –

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from the President tendering his resignation of which the following is a copy –

"San Francisco July the 23rd 1856 –

To the Officers and members of the Mechanics Institute –

Gentlemen,

I beg to tender my resignation as President of the Mechanics Institute –

I am constrained to this course, as I am about to make my permanent residence in Sonoma County. I shall ever cherish most lively sentiments of regard for the Institute, and shall contribute my efforts for its permanency and success,

And remain, Gentlemen, very respectfully your Obt. Servant and friend

Rod. Matheson"

On reading the above a discussion ensued, in which Messrs. Street, McKibbin, Van Pelt and Williams participated, when on motion the resignation of the President was accepted.

The following communication was then read from Mr. J. Kittredge –

San Francisco July 30th 1856

To the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco

Gentlemen,

My business engagements will prevent my further attendance on the meetings of the Board, I therefore, hereby respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the directory.

With best wishes for the prosperity of the Institute,

I remain gentlemen your Obt. Sert.

J. Kittredge."

On reading the above it was voted that the resignation of Mr. Kittredge as a member of the Board of Directors be accepted.

It was then ordered that the Secretary give notice through the City press that an election of a Director would be held on the next regular monthly meeting of the Institute.

Reports from Standing Committees were called for, whereupon Mr. McKibbin Chairman of the Committee of Ways and means and Accounts, stated that the first thing to be done was to raise the necessary funds to relieve the Institute from its present indebtedness. To this end he would recommend that each member of the Board would consider himself a Special Committee, to sell stock in the Institute, and apply the funds thus raised to the liquidation of its debts. So many members of the Institute who had been regarded as reliable had proved delinquent, that some course of the kind he had suggested had become necessary to save the credit of the Institute, and provide for the payment of debts incurred for rent of Hall, and Services of the Secretary and Librarian.

Mr. McKibbin further stated that he still entertained the opinion, that a lecturer could be procured who would be able to draw an audience that would not only defray the expenses necessarily incurred in getting up such an affair, but would yield two or three hundred Dollars to the treasury of the Institute.

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building stated that he fully concurred in the views expressed by Mr. McKibbin, and regretted that so many members of the Institute had failed to to pay their assessments, and the consequent embarrassment of the Institute.

He trusted some measures would be adopted, and that speedily to pay off the several bills now held against the Institute, among the first of which that should be paid, was that for rent of Hall.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, Reported as having been presented to the Institute the following works, viz — from Genl J. A. McDougall,

Explorations for a Rail Road route from the Mississippi River to the Pacific.

Report of the Superintendant of the Coast Survey for 1854.

From C. Baron,

Professor Ure's Dictionary of the Arts Manufactures and mines.

Whereupon it was voted that the donations be accepted, and the thanks of the Board tendered to the donors.

The Secretary and Librarian stated to the Board that in consequence of the difficulty he had met with in making collections from members of this assessments, he had been made painfully aware that the Institute was unable any longer to

allow him any compensation for his services, and that he therefore requested the Board to adopt a resolution to the effect, that from and after the present month his salary should cease. The Secretary further stated, that until he could perfect other arrangements he would continue to perform his accustomed services to the Institute gratuitously.

Whereupon on motion of Mr. Street it was voted that the request of the Secretary be met in the spirit in which it was made, that the salary heretofore allowed him should cease from and after the present month, that his offer of continued service to the Institute be accepted and the thanks of the Board tendered to him.

The several members of the Board and officers of the Institute discussed various plans to relieve it from its present embarrassments which were severally laid over to the next meeting.

On motion the Board adjourned to the next regular meeting, the second Friday in August.

P B Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute
San Francisco August the 6th 1856

This being the regular monthly meeting it was hoped there would be present a quorum of the members to act upon the several important matters awaiting its action. There being no quorum present, a request was made to the President to call a special meeting of the Institute for Monday evening August the 11th and to cause that notice thereof be given through the City press.

P B Dexter Sec.

August the 11th 1856

A quorum not being present, under the following call of the President, to wit—

To Gardner Elliott Esqr
President of the Institute.

Dear Sir,

You are hereby requested to call a special meeting of the Institute for monday evening, August the 11th, at 8 O'clock to elect one director in place of J. Rittredge resigned and transact other important business.

Signed by ten members.

The President then gave notice that he should call a special meeting of the Institute for Friday evening August the 15th

P B Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday evening August 15th 1856

The Institute met pursuant to a Call of the President.

Present the President, Corresponding Secretary and a quorum of members.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Institute, (May the 7th) was read, when Mr. Sime called the attention of Members to the action at that time had on the proposed amendment of Article 3 Section 6. of the Constitution, which elicited a debate in which Mess Van Pelt Perkitt, S. H. Williams and Fisk participated, when the President ruled the matter out of order, for the reason that an amendment to the Constitution could only be considered at a regular stated meeting of the Institute, and this was called by himself for special purposes.

Mr. Sime moved to go into an election for one Director in place of Mr. J. Kittredge resigned, which was carried.

Mr. Street moved to go into nominations, which prevailed and the following gentlemen were nominated, viz Messrs. Banks James and Chace.

Whereupon the President appointed the following members as tellers, viz Mess Perkitt, S. H. Williams and James.

A ballot was then had which resulted in the election of Mr. J. A. Banks as director to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Kittredge.

The President laid before the Institute the following Communication from Mr. R. Matheson viz

"San Francisco July the 23rd 1856

To the Officers and Members of the

Mechanics Institute.

Gentlemen,

I beg to tender you my resignation as President of the Mechanics Institute.

I am constrained to this course as I am about to make my permanent residence in Sonoma County.

I shall ever cherish most lively sentiments of regard for the Institute, and contribute my efforts for its permanency and success.

And remain, Gentlemen
Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt. & friend

Rod. Matheson"

The letter having been read, on motion the resignation of Mr. Matheson was accepted.

The President stated that he had expected to hear a report from the Chairman of the Committee of Ways & Means, on the present financial condition of the Institute, and regretted much the non attendance of that officer.

Various plans ~~of~~ relief were suggested by Mess. Fisk, Perkitt, Van Pelt, Taylor S. H. Williams and others.

When Mr. Perkitt suggested that a benefit given to the Institute by a prominent actor or actress, and through the exertions of individual members of the Institute, in disposing of tickets a very handsome sum might be realized to the Treasury, and relieve us from our present embarrassments.

Whereupon on motion of Mr. Banks Messrs Sime, H. P. Williams and Keyes were appointed a Committee to confer with parties as above suggested, with a view to a benefit in aid of the Institute.

On motion the President was added

the Committee.

Mr H. D. Williams called the attention of Members to a decision of the Supreme Court as given by Judge Heydenfeldt, by which the intentions of the Legislature of this State in reference to a Mechanics Lien law were completely nullified. The hour being late the matter was laid over for future Consideration. #

There being no further business before the Institute it adjourned to the next regular meeting, the first Wednesday in September.

(P. Dwyer) Sec.

The report of the Treasurer was laid before the Institute which on being read was ~~laid before the~~ received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Account of E. Cook Treasurer of the Mechanics Institute from April the 14th to August the 6th

Receipts.

April 14	To Cash	$21.48	
May 7	" "	199.00	
" 29	" "	208.50	$428.98

Disbursements

" 7	By Cash Paid S. Brannan for Rent	25.00	
	" " " Evening Bulletin	5.00	
	" " " H. D. Williams	21.00	
	" " " Franklin Printing office	9.00	
	" " " Sec. & Librarian	137.25	
" 29	" " " do do	125.00	
	" " " Frost & Richards	10.00	
	" " " Hall & O'Brien	20.00	
	" " " Frank Baker	49.00	$401.25
	Balance in Treasury		$27.73

E. Cook Treasurer.

The above was submitted before the adjournment and should have been so entered.

Hall of the Institute
San Francisco August 22nd 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names viz. Cleft, Banks Van Pelt McKibbin, Taylor, Street & Dwett, who were called to order by the President.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from standing Committees being in order, Mr. McKibbin from the Committee of Ways & Means, stated that the Committee had no new matter before it, and, inasmuch as he had been prevented by business from attending the meeting of the Institute on Friday last he requested that that portion of the minutes of ~~relating~~ that meeting relating to the appointment of a Committee to arrange for a benefit to be given at one of the theatres of the City, be read.

To the Institute

After some remarks by Mess. Van Pelt, Street and McKibbin, the Board, on Motion, instructed the Committee of Ways and Means to confer with the Committee of the Institute, and aid the said Committee in perfecting the arrangements necessary to a benefit in aid of the funds of the Institute.

The Committee on Library, Reading Room and building — no report.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and donations presented the following memorandum of Books which had been generously donated to the Institute since the last meeting of the Board.

From Mr. John M. Easterly had been received,

Châtiments, by Victor Hugo.	French	1
Histoire de France.	"	2
Vie du Cardinal Du Bois.	"	1
Borque de las Ceremonias. (Spanish)	—	1
Dictionaire de Theologie	French	8
Un Coeur Chretien	"	1

Bibliothèque des Classes Ouvrieres French 1
Dictionaire des Heresies " 1
Memoires D'un Prêtre " 5
Vies des Hommes Illustres " 1
Morellet Melanges de Literature " 4
Le Livre de L'Ouvrier " 1
Dictionaire of Heresies " 1
Regnier, Malherbe, Ragan & Maynard " 1
Memoires Sur L'Art Dramatique " 2
do de Marmontel " 1
Legendes des Commandements de Dieu " 1
Histoire de France " 1
Chartreuse de Parme " 1
Fabrication de Fromage " 1
Seminario de la Nueva Granado (Spanish) 1
Observations Sur L'Agriculture French 1
Albert Renaud " 2
La Francée de Lammennais " 3
Emilie Plater " 1
Legendes de L'Histoire de France " 1
" de la Ste. Vierge " 1
Esprit Humain " 1
Prince de Marre " 1
L'Hermit de Londres " 1
Revue du Progrès " 1
Poutier, Connoisance des Terres en Agriculture 1

57 Vols.

From State Library has been received
Journal of the Senate and Assembly of California for 50.51.52.53.54 and 55.
Laws of California
Statutes of California for 50.51.52.53.54.55.56

16 Vols.

Whereupon, on Motion the Books were accepted and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

On Motion of Mr. Street, it was ordered that Books containing the laws and Statutes of California be not allowed to be taken from the Library Room.

On Motion of Mr. Street the Secretary

was authorized to contract for the printing, in Pamphlet form, of two hundred copies of the Mechanics Lien Law passed at the last Session of the Legislature, and to cause the same to be sold at not less than fifty cents per Copy.

The attention of the Board was called to the decision of the Supreme Court, affirming that an unrecorded mortgage took precedence of a Mechanics Lien, which gave rise to a discussion in which Mess. Street, McKibbin, Van Pelt Taylor and Swett participated, condemning in merited terms the extraordinary opinion given by Judge Murray and concurred in by Judge Hegdenfeldt.

The use of the Rooms of the Institute was refused to the People's Committee.

On motion of Mr. McKibbin the President and Recording Secretary were authorized to sign the lease from Mr. Polhemus to the Institute of the rooms it now occupies.

There being no further business before the Board it adjourned to the next regular meeting Friday, September the 12th at 4 O'clock P.M.

C. P. Dexter
Recording Secretary

Hall of the Institute
Tuesday August the 26th 1856

The Board met in pursuance of a Call of the President.

Present the President, Corresponding Secretary and the following Directors answered to their names, Jno. Alex. Van Pelt, Taylor, Banks, McKibbin, and Kincaid.

The President laid before the Board the Circular of the State Agricultural Society inviting the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco to cooperate in the that association through the fair appointed to be held at San Jose in October next in their endeavors to promote the interests of the industrial classes of the State, and stated that his object in calling the Directors ~~to~~ together was to take into consideration the invitation which the State Society had seen proper to extend to the Institute and to notice in some suitable manner, to the Editor of the California Farmer, the high appreciation in which his labors in the Cause of the industrial Classes was held by the Institute.

Whereupon an interchange of views being had on the part of the Directors and officers present. ~~the~~ Committee was appointed consisting of the following persons # to draft a Circular inviting the Mechanics of the State to aid in the coming fair by placing on exhibition such evidence of their Skill and ingenuity as time would allow them to prepare ~~v. t. t.~~ and to cause said Circular to be published in the California Farmer.

The Committee through the Corresponding Secretary presented the following papers for the approval of the Board.

Hall of the Institute
San Francisco August 26/56.

To Col. Warren

Sir

Committee Elliott, H. T. Williams and Dutton

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, held at their Rooms on Tuesday, August the 26th 1856, a communication was received from the executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, soliciting our Institute and Kindred associations, as well as individual Mechanics, to attend the State fair, and cooperate with them in promoting the industrial interests of the State. And it was by unanimous vote agreed that our Institute should respond to the Call, and issue a Circular to the Mechanics throughout the State, requesting them to do likewise. This Course we have adopted on the supposition that ours is the first, and perhaps the only organization of the kind in the state, and the only association devoted to the promotion of the best interests of the Mechanical Classes.

It was by unanimous vote decided to have the enclosed circular distributed through the agency of the "California Farmer", which we are pleased to recognize as the organ of our Institute, and the journal of the industrial interests of the state. We further desire to call the attention of all Mechanics and Manufacturers, especially to the "California Farmer" as a journal particularly earnest in the Cause of the working men of California, and a journal worthy of their interest and support.

The California Farmer having long been engaged in the cause of fostering and encouraging the industrial interests of the state, and having voluntarily offered to aid our interests by opening its Columns for the publication of all our meetings and reports, and otherwise aiding our interests without cost to us or any pecuniary reward for so doing, we feel called upon to recommend it to our co-laborers, as the journal of our interests and to adopt it as the organ of

our association, and do therefore cheerfully recommend it to the Mechanics, manufacturing and working men of our State.

Accompanying this you will receive the Circular alluded to, and which we trust will be acceptable to you to publish, and be received and acted upon promptly over our whole State. +

Signed by H. P. Williams Cor. Sec.

Circular.

Hall of the Institute.

To the Mechanics of the State of California.

The Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, desire to advise their fellow Craftsmen throughout the State of their intention to be represented at the State Agricultural fair, in October next, at San José in response to a call made through the Circular of the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society

We therefore earnestly hope that the Mechanics generally will avail themselves of the invitation of the executive Committee, and use all reasonable efforts to attend this fair; if only for the mutual interchange of views relative to the blending of the Agricultural and Mechanical interests for future exhibitions. The Mechanics of this City are preparing many contributions for the mechanical department of the fair, which will be forwarded under the Supervision of a Special Committee from our Institute, and we cheerfully tender to the Mechanics of the interior our services in receiving and forwarding, free of Charge any contributions they may desire to intrust to our care, and to this end they can address the Institute through the Corresponding Secretary. Signed by the Elliott President. R. B. Dexter Rec. Sec. H. P. Williams Cor. Sec. E. Cook Treasurer. J. E. Kincaid, J. A. Banks, W. McKillop, G. D. Stout, T. P. Scott, C. C. Pope, Cor. J. D. Van Pelt Directors

The Communication to the California Farmer and Circular having been read, on motion they were received, and ordered spread upon the minutes, and a copy to be forwarded for publication.

There being no further business before the Board it adjourned to the 12th of September.

R. B. Dexter Secy.

Hall of the Institute.
Wednesday evening Sept. 3rd 1856

This was the regular night of meeting of the Institute, as provided in Article 8. Section 3. of the Constitution. There not being a constitutional quorum the meeting adjourned to the first Wednesday in October.

P. B. Dexter Sec.

Wednesday evening Sept. 4. 1856

The Board met in pursuance of a Call of the President.

The following Directors answered to their names, viz. Mess. Van Pelt, Taylor, Street, Mr. Kibbin and Swett, and were called to order by the President, who stated that they had been called together to consider a Communication from the Pioneer Association of this City, inviting the Institute to unite with them in celebrating the Anniversary of the Admission of California into the union as a Sovereign State.

The invitation coming from so respectable an association, required, in his opinion, a suitable response, and inasmuch as the Board would not again meet before the anniversary named, he had thought it proper to call this meeting to determine upon the course proper to be pursued.

The letter was read when on motion it was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

"San Francisco Sept. 1st 1856

To the Secretary of the Mechanics Institute

Sir

Your association is respectfully invited by the Society of California Pioneers to unite with them in this approaching celebration on the 9th Inst.

An early answer to this invitation, addressed to F. J. Lippitt, marshall of the day, 44 Montgomery Block, would confer a favor on the Society.

Very respectfully, yours
Arthur B. Stout
Chm. Com. Arrangements.

An interchange of views being had it was ordered that the Corresponding Secretary communicate to the Society of Pioneers the reasons which will prevent the Institute as a body, from uniting with them in this approaching Celebration. #

On motion the Board adjourned to the next regular meeting Friday September the 12th at 4 O'Clock P. M.

P. B. Dexter

Mr. Street moved, that inasmuch as the Board had given notice that the Institute would receive and forward any article designed for exhibition in the Mechanical department, at the approaching Agricultural fair to be holden at San Jose in October next, a Committee should be appointed to attend especially to that business. which motion prevailed. It was then ordered that the said Committee should consist of the Board of Directors and other officers, whereof the Corresponding Secretary should be Chairman.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday September the 12th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

On Calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names. Viz. Messrs Banks, Taylor, Van Pelt, Kincaid, Street & McKibbin.

Present also the President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

The proceedings of the last meeting of the Board, as recorded were, approved on being read.

Reports from Standing Committees being called for,

The Committee on Library, Reading Room & Building reported progress.

The Committee of Ways & Means and accounts, reported progress.

The Committee on Books and Donations, through the Chairman Mr. Taylor reported the following donations to the Library.

From J. W. Denver
Mil. Japan Expedition by Com. Perry
Vol 1st

From Mr. Du Peystre
Cruise of the North Star
by Com. Vanderbilt

On motion of Mr. Van Pelt the donations were accepted and the thanks of the board voted to the Donors.

The Secretary special Committee on printing the Lien law of the last Legislature, reported progress.

The President from the special Committee on the subject of a benefit to be given at one of the theatres in aid of the Institute, reported that he had seen the proprietor of the Metropolitan theatre, and from him had learned that the entire expense of the theatre per night was about

$ 350. and that at the present prices, the house would hold about $1500. Upon what terms the services of Mrs. Hayne could be secured he did not learn, but that as soon as she returned to the stage, some arrangement, with a view to secure her services for the contemplated benefit, would be made with her. The President also stated that he had been informed that Mr. Edwin Forrest was soon expected to visit California, for the purpose of playing an engagement and suggested the propriety of making an early effort to secure his services for another benefit to the Institute.

On motion the report was received, and Committee continued.

Mr. Taylor had seen Col. Warren, who suggested that a Committee from the Institute should be early on the ground at the Coming fair, in order to receive and arrange for the exhibition of the Mechanical department of the fair such articles as might be forwarded to their care.

Mr. H. T. Williams had learned from the President of the Agricultural Society, Mr. Baird, that the officers of that association would attend to that business, and that it would not be necessary to send a Committee from the Institute.

Mr. Williams suggested the propriety of inviting, on behalf of the Institute, the State Agricultural Society to unite with us in an exhibition and fair to be holden in this City during the Coming year. Mr. W. mentioned the Mechanics Institute of Louisville, Kentucky, and stated that from three exhibitions that association had realized a very large sum, had a fine hall, and 5000. volumes in their Library - though it was organized since 1852. and was now in a most flourishing condition.

Mr. Street concurred with the corresponding Secretary and thought that the Institute should give notice to the Agricultural Society, ~~and~~ at their coming fair, of the intention to hold a fair in this City the next year and invite them to unite with us.

Mr. Van Pelt thought that before acting upon that suggestion, it would be proper to submit the matter to the consideration of the Institute.

Mr. McKibbin gave notice that at the next meeting of the Institute he would offer a resolution, to the effect that a ~~fair~~ Mechanics fair and exhibition be authorized to be held the coming season, and should this be sanctioned, as it unquestionably ought to be, then it would be proper to invite the cooperation of the State Society.

All the directors concurred in the opinion that from five to six thousand dollars could be realized from such exhibition, from the sale of tickets, the renting of stands, &c. &c.

Mr. Street asked for the reading of the response to the invitation given to the Institute to join in the celebration of the anniversary of the admission of California as a state.

The Corresponding Secretary read his answer, as instructed by the Board at a former meeting, which was approved.

The Board adjourned to the 4th Friday of the present month, the 26th Inst. at 4 O'clock P. M.

P. Deytes Secretary

Hall of the Institute.
Friday September 26th 1856

There not being a quorum present the meeting was adjourned.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the following directors viz. Mess. Van Pelt, McKibbin, Kincaid, Taylor, and Banks.

It having been announced that the President was out of the City, Mr. Van Pelt was chosen President pro tempore.

The chair stated that the principal business was the consideration of the terms upon which a benefit, at one of the Theatres could be had, but inasmuch as none of the special committee who had that matter in charge, was

September 26th 1856

There not being a constitutional quorum of the Directors the meeting adjourned to the next regular meeting, October 10th, at the usual hour.

P. Deytes Sec.

There was not a quorum of members at the regular meeting of the Institute on Wednesday October the 1st

October 10th, 1856

The Corresponding and Recording Secretaries being in attendance at the State fair at San Jose there was no meeting of the Board. The next regular meeting will be on the 24th Inst. at the usual hour.

P. Deytes Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday October 24th 1856

The Board met, being the regular day of meeting.

Present the following Directors, viz. Messrs Van Pelt, Taylor, Banks, Mr. Kibbin, & Street.

The Board was called to order by the Secretary, the President being absent from the City.

On motion, Mr. Van Pelt was chosen President pro tempore.

On taking the Chair Mr. Van Pelt stated that the principal, if not the only business before the Board was to hear the report from the special Committee on Benefits, and as three members of that Committee were not then present, no report could be expected.

Reports from the several standing Committees were not called for.

The Secretary stated that he had been unsuccessful in obtaining any copies of the Lien law ordered by the Board some two or three months before, and enquired if he should continue to wait upon Mr. Calhoun who had so often disappointed the Board.

The Secretary was directed to give him a further trial.

On motion the Board adjourned to the next regular meeting. Nov. 14th 1856.

(J. B. Wise) Sec.

There was not a quorum of members at the regular meeting of the Institute on Wednesday evening ~~October~~ November the 5th.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday November the 14th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

On calling the roll the following directors answered to their names viz. Mess. Banks, Swett, Taylor, Van Pelt, & Mr. Kibbin.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from standing Committees were called for.

Committee on Reading Room and Building made no report.

Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts no report prepared.

Committee on Books and donations through the Chairman, Mr Taylor presented the following Books which had been donated to the Institute.

From J. C. Stone

North British Critics 1 Vol.
Keightley's History of Rome. 1 "
The land of the Saracen. 1 "

From Mr. Butler

A. Home for all 1 "

From Mr. C. L. Taylor

A very beautiful specimen of Cinnabar from the Quick Silver mines of Almaden.

On motion the above were accepted and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

A Report from the Special Committee on Benefits was called for, whereupon Mr. Kibbin stated that the Committee, assisted by Mr. Frank Soule, had waited upon and secured the services of Mrs. Julia Dean

Hayne, who had generously consented to appear as Madeleine, in the play of that name and with what success was known to all. After paying the expenses of the Theatre, amounting to $375.00 and $500 to Mr. Pope, there would remain to the Institute the handsome sum of upwards of $1100. Mr. McK. would take that occasion to say that after paying the debts of the Institute there would be added to the Treasury about six hundred dollars. In proffering pecuniary compensation to Mrs. Hayne for her valuable services, on that occasion, she nobly declined to receive anything, but stated she would greatly prefer that the Institute would testify their appreciation of her services on that ~~occasion~~ occasion in question, by giving to her on her return to the City, their patronage and support, when she might call for a benefit on her own behalf.

With this statement Mr. McK. would move that resolutions expressive of thanks of the Board be ~~drawn up~~ and forwarded to Mrs. Hayne, and that duty be performed by the Corresponding and Recording Secretories.

Mr. A. A. Banks proposed that the Secretaries be directed to communicate by letter to Mrs Hayne and that publication be made of the fact that her services had been gratuitously rendered, in order to disabuse the public, many of whom supposed that she would not play without a large consideration.

The amendment was accepted and the motion prevailed.

The Committee of Ways & Means & Accounts laid before the Board the following bills which had been approved and orders drawn on the Treasury for their amount. Also the monthly report of the Librarian. Receipts from all sources $539.80

C. B. Polhemus	No. 9	
	For rent of Hall for 6 months to Nov. 1st	$450.00
Wm Neagle	No. 10	
	For Plastering of Rooms of Hall	21.00
Gas Company	No. 11	
	For Gas & Service	41.32
O. Fuller	No. 12.	
	Gas Fixtures	30.00
		$542.32

The President stated that Dr. Wozencroft had through him proposed to deliver a lecture before the Institute, at an early day, and had expressed a wish that it should be free. The subject he had chosen for the proposed lecture was: "The Atlantic and Pacific Rail Road, considered as a national, conservative, and constitutional measure".

Hereupon an animated discussion arose in which all the Directors participated.

Mr. Swett, was unwilling to draw upon the treasury for any portion of the expense attending the giving of a lecture, though perfectly willing to yield to the wishes of of Dr. W. in making the first lecture free even should it be necessary to defray the expense by voluntary contribution!

Mr. Van Pelt was opposed to free lectures after the experience the Institute had gained from the lectures of the past season. If they could not be made a source of revenue, they at least should pay expenses.

Mr. McRibbin concurred in the above views, and thought that at 25 Cents per ticket admitting a gentleman and lady, the lectures would be well attended and a handsome surplus be left for the Treasury after paying rent of Hall and other expenses. He was in favor of lectures that would yield a revenue.

Mr. Williams did not like the

appearance of going before the public, demanding pay for a lecture, so soon after that public had given them so fine a benefit.

Mr. Cook stated that the Mercantile Library Association had had four benefits and yet did not hesitate to charge $5. for a course of lectures. He thought at 25 cents per ticket, admitting a lady & gentleman, Musical Hall could be filled, particularly if capable men were selected, and time given them to prepare a lecture, and thus put money in the treasury. As a general thing the members of the Institute did not approve of free lectures. Mr Knox had proposed to lecture before the Members of the Institute, on any evening they might appoint, on the subject of Electricity.

Mr. Taylor trusted that a course of lectures be decided upon, and that tickets for the entire series be offered, and should not a sufficient number be sold to fill the Hall, yet tickets at 25 cents could be sold at the door.

Mr. Banks thought that if it was deemed expedient to have the first lecture be a free one, it could then be announced what were to be the terms of the following ones.

Mr. Van Pelt stated that it was no unusual thing at the east to make the introductory lecture of a course, free, and charge a remunerating price for all that followed.

Mr. Banks moved the appointment of a Committee consisting

Mr. McKibbin moved that a course of lectures be given before the Institute, and that the first be given at an early day, which motion prevailed.

Mr. Banks moved the appointment of a committee on lectures, whose duty it should be made to arrange for the contemplated course

and that the Committee shall consist of the President, the Chairmen of the three Standing Committees, and the Corresponding and Recording Secretary, which was carried affirmatively.

The Recording Secretary was directed to communicate to Mr. Knox the acceptance by the Board of Directors of his tender of services in lecturing before the members of the Institute.

There being no further business before the Board it was adjourned to the next regular meeting, November the 28th proximo.

J. T. Dexter

November 28th 1856

Present Mess. Kincaid, Van Pelt, Taylor and Swett.

There being no quorum the meeting was adjourned to December the 12th that being the next regular night of Meeting.

J. T. Dexter

The following Bills were approved by the Committee of Ways & Means & Accounts and ordered to be paid by the Board at their meeting on the 14th of November, viz

E. R. Melbury for Posting play Bills		(No. 13)	3.00
"Herald" for Advertising correspondence		(No. 14)	5.00
O'Meara & Painter for printing Posters		(No. 15)	5.00
"Town Talk" for Advertising & Tickets		(No. 16)	16.00
"Daily Sun"	do	(No. 17)	5.00
W. L. Newell	do	(No. 18)	5.00
"Bulletin"	do	(No. 19)	10.00
"Alta"	do	(No. 20)	8.00
Tomica & Parker	Refreshments	(No. 21)	31.25
Simonton & (Globe)	for advertising	(No. 22)	3.00
			$91.25

Hall of the Institute
Wednesday December the 3rd 1856

The Institute met pursuant to notice.

Present the President and a quorum of members.

The minutes of the regular meeting of May 7th and the called meeting of August 15th were read and approved.

Reports from the standing Committees of the Board of Directors having been called for. Mr. McKibbin from the Committee on Ways and Means and accounts, submitted the following

Report of the Committee of Ways and Means of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco up to Nov. 14th 1856

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the duties imposed on us by the By-laws, we respectfully present the following report.

As per Statement of the Librarian up to March the 27th 1856 and of your Committee up to the same date, there was a deficit in the Treasury of three hundred and ninety Dollars.

as follows

Fitting up of Hall	140.00
Salary of Librarian for Feb & March	250.00
Total	390.00

Since which time the receipts and disbursements have been as follows,

Receipts

Cash on hand	$ 44.73
Rec'd On Acct of Assessments	518.00
" " " " Stock	80.00
" " " " Rent	150.00
" " " " Benefit	1029.50
	1822.23

Brot up Receipts — $ 1822.23

Disbursements

Rent of Hall up to Nov. 1st 1856	$450.00	
Wm Nagle's Bill	21.00	
Gas Bill	41.00	
" Fixtures C. Fuller & Co	30.00	
Librarians Salary 6 Months	750.00	
Printing	10.00	
Furniture	105.00	
Ream of Paper	4.00	$1430.00
Leaving a balance on hand of		$392.23

As the Rent of the Hall has been paid up to the first of November in full, we have incurred the following debt up to the present time

One Months Rent	$ 75.00
" Free Lecture	25.00
Total	$100.00

For which we receive twenty five Dollars Rent per Month for Back Room of the Hall, which leaves a balance of seventy five Dollars, taken from the amount on hand on Nov. 14th leaves a balance of Cash on hand to date of $ 318.23

All of which is respectfully submitted

Signed Wm McKibbin
Dwm Van Pelt

San Francisco Decr 3. 1856

On motion the above report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Committee on Library Reading Room and Building — no report.

Committee on Books and Donations no report.

The Treasurer, Mr. E. Cook laid before the Institute the following report.

Account of E. Cook Treasurer of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco from August the 6th to December the 3rd 1856

Receipts

Aug. 6th	To Cash on hand	$27.73	
Nov. 8th	Rec.d of Rec. Secretary	694.00	
10	" " " "	133.00	
13	" " " "	120.00	
26	" " " "	92.50	$1067.23

Making a total Amt. of Receipts to date of One thousand & Sixty Seven 23/100 Dollars

Disbursements

Nov. 12	By Cash Paid C. B. Polhemus for Rent	$450.00	
"	" " " C. Fuller for Gas fixtures	30.00	
13	" " " San Franc.o Gas. Company	41.32	
"	" " " Wm Neagle Repairing Rooms &c	21.00	
26	" " " E. B. Medbury for Posting	3.00	
"	" " " Daily Sun, Advertising	5.00	
"	" " " Daily Herald "	5.00	
"	" " " Daily Town Talk " &c	16.00	
"	" " " Daily Chronicle "	5.00	
"	" " " O'Meara & Painter, Printing	5.00	$581.32

Leaving a Balance in the Treasury to date of $485.91

All of which is respectfully submitted
E. Cook, Treasurer

On motion the Report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Mr. E. Cook through the Secretary offered the following resolution which on motion was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That on and after the passage of this resolution, the President and Board of Directors be authorized to take the necessary steps towards having a Mechanics and Manufacturers fair held in this City in the next ensuing year, under the control of the Institute, and that the cooperation of the Mechanics and Manufacturers throughout the State be solicited.

Mr. Purkitt brought to the notice of the meeting the fact that Mr. Joseph S. Paxson had

a lock embracing many new and important improvements, and moved that Mr. Paxson be invited to appear before the Institute at the next meeting, and make such explanations in regard to his invention as he may deem of interest to the members. It was further moved that the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to communicate to Mr. Paxson the above order and invite him to appear before the Institute at its next meeting and make an exhibition of his invention.

Mr. H. P. Williams gave notice that at the next meeting of the Institute he should move to amend Article 3. Section 7 of the Constitution, by striking out the section entire, which now reads, "All members eligible to office must be Mechanics, and Citizens of San Francisco.

Mr. Williams wished the doors of the Institute to be thrown wide open, to all, to the Artisan, the laborer, the Manufacturer, to all who gained an honest livelihood by honest labor.

The Secretary stated that Mr. Knox had not, through the negligence of himself, been notified of the meeting this evening, whereupon it was ordered that he be invited to attend at the next meeting of the Institute, with Mr. Paxson and give a lecture on electricity before the members.

Mr. Purkitt stated that he thought the Institute would be greatly aided in procuring a lot on which to put up a building for the use of the Institute, should the Building Committee be instructed to advertise for plans for such edifice, and offer an adequate sum to be paid to the successful competitor. Owners of property were generally sharp sighted enough to perceive at once how much a fine building on a given piece of property would enhance the value of lots immediately adjoining. He thought the interests of the Institute would be furthered by offering a liberal sum

for the plan which might be adopted. #

Mr. H. P. Williams named three hundred dollars as the price to be paid. A plan thus drawn, making a handsome picture would do much towards securing for the Institute liberal offers of lots on which to build. He had in his eye some wealthy old bachelors upon whom a handsomely got up plan of a fine structure would have much influence, and would probably lead to the offers of terms highly advantageous to the Institute.

Mr. McKibbin was opposed to the payment of such sum for a plan of a building — he was placed on a Committee which made it his duty to look after the finances, and a draft on the Treasury at this time of the sum ~~would~~ proposed would again embarrass us.

Mr. Street thought it would be proper to determine upon the probable location, and decide upon size &c. of the proposed structure, and then offer a fair remunerative price when a plan should be adopted.

Mr. H. P. Williams did not propose to draw from the Treasury any of the funds now there, but would say that the plan finally selected should be paid in stock or be drawn from the stock fund. (Mr. Purkitt's motion see Page 207)

Mr. Purkitt enquired of the President what had been done in reference to a course of lectures.

The President stated that not being able to get musical hall, the Committee on lectures had attempted to secure another place, but with what success he was not prepared to say. It was certainly desirable that the course of lectures be had before the Institute the present season, and that early steps would be taken by the Committee to secure able and competent

lecturers, and procure a suitable hall for the same.

Mr. McKibbin congratulated the members on the present flourishing condition of the Institute, and gave notice that the rooms would again be thrown open in the evening as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made with the Librarian. The Institute could not afford to pay the Librarian for services rendered during the day — not even for collecting dues from members, that if individual shareholders did not feel sufficient interest in its growth ~~and~~ advancement, to come voluntarily forward and pay their assessments, they were unfit to remain members. That the present Secretary and Librarian had ~~not~~ demanded any compensation for his services since July last, and that the Institute was not able even now to pay him such sum as his services deserved.

The Corresponding Secretary read a communication from Mr. Norton the agent of the Institute in Newyork, explaining the causes of the delay in securing a certain bequest of $500.

Mr. Purkitt made some remarks in reference ~~to~~ the proposed fair, and trusted the Board of Directors would take early steps to forward it, by making judicious arrangements for exhibiting favorably all articles designed for exhibition, and to ~~invite~~ the cooperation of the Mechanics, Manufacturers and artists throughout the State.

Mr. H. P. Williams spoke of the present law of records whereby a Mechanics Lien Law was rendered of no avail. He moved the appointment of a Committee whose duty it should be to draft a memorial to the Legislature, praying an alteration of the present law in reference to records and to circulate the same for signatures. The motion prevailed. The President named as

the Committee on memorial, Messrs. H. T. Williams, Mr. Kibbin, & Banks. To the above were added Mr. Purkitt and the President.

Mr. Purkitt moved that when the Institute adjourn it shall adjourn to Friday the 19th proximo at 7 O'clock.

On motion the Institute adjourned.

(J. P. Bexter) Sec.

Mr. Purkitt

Page 205 &c. therefore moved that the Board of Directors be authorized to instruct their Committee on Library Reading Room and Building to advertise for plans for an edifice for the Institute, and to offer the sum of three hundred Dollars for such plan as should be finally adopted by the Board, such sum to be paid in Stock.

Hall of the Institute

Friday evening Decr. 12th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and Corresponding Secretary.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names. viz. Messr. Mr. Kibbin, Banks, Street, Van Pelt and Taylor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from the Standing Committees of the Board were called for, whereupon Mr. Mr. Kibbin from

The Committee of Ways and Means and accounts, stated that after paying for the rent of Hall, the only debt incurred since the last meeting of the Board, there would remain in the Treasury an unexpended balance of $420.

The Committee availed themselves of the occasion to congratulate the Board on the flourishing state of the Institute, and hoped to see large additions made to the membership.

On Motion the report was accepted.

The Committee on Library Reading Room & Building, made no report.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, presented to the Board the following list of Books, donated by the Gentlemen named,

Dr. Scott – donates

"Memoirs of W. M. Lowrie"	1 vol
"Daniel a model for young men"	1 "
"Brief Memoirs of the Pious"	1 "
"Youth's Gleaner"	1 "
"Wedge of Gold"	1 "
"Trade & Letters"	1 "
"Almost Christian"	1 "
"Providence of God"	1 "
"What is Calvinism?"	1 "
"What is Presbyterianism?"	1 "
Campbell's voyages to and from the Cape Good Hope	1 "
Several Temperance Tracts	

G. B. Haywood. donates
Several Phonographic Works.
D. Johson donates
Several Articles for the Cabinet.

On motion the books &c were accepted & the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

Mr. Taylor remarked that though the Library was slowly increasing by donations, yet he thought that something should be done by the Board towards purchasing desirable works, and to that end would recommend for the Consideration of the Board the propriety of ordering the payment of another installment of ten per Cent on the shares Subscribed for, or, as many members had not yet paid the second installment on their shares, that the Librarian be instructed to Collect what might be thus due and the Amt Collected be appropriated to the purchase of Books. Mr Taylor explained that he did not wish to draw from the Treasury any funds now there for the purpose named, and would prefer Calling in another installment. He did not offer these suggestions for the immediate action of the Board, but presented them for future Consideration.

Mr Street stated that he had been authorized by Mr. Parkitt to say, that should the Board determine upon a course of paying lectures, that he would deliver before the Institute one or more discourses on the "Phylosophy of Life".

The President called up the subject of the proposed fair as acted on by the Institute on its last meeting. Mr McKibbin was in favor of holding a fair in this City, the Coming Summer and autumn, and in order properly to arrange for the occasion, the Board should go to work at once, and prepare all the necessary details. It was an important matter involving the reputation of the Institute, and, as, if properly got up it would prove a source of revenue, he trusted that the Board would act

in Committee of the whole until all the preliminaries were agreed upon.

Mr. Street concurred in the views of Mr. McKibbin, and thought every member of the Institute was in favor of having an exhibition and fair the Coming Season, not only because it would prove a source of revenue to the Institute, but because also it would afford to the mechanics throughout the State, an opportunity for a display of their ingenuity & skill. In order that this matter should be properly understood abroad, he thought a Committee should be appointed whose business it should be to draft a plan or scheme, setting forth as far as possible, the objects and purposes of the fair, on what articles to offer premiums, and how much, & send it forth throughout the State.

Mr. Van Pelt thought it would not do to send abroad any plan until every thing relating to its success should be fully matured. This was an experiment on the Pacific, and in order that it might prove a successful one, he wished to have a thorough discussion of its several departments. As it regarded premiums, he thought the several Competitors would more regard the award of the first premium on any given article, than any sum of money that the Institute might see proper to offer to the best of its Kind, and that a handsomely got up Diploma would be as highly esteemed as a pretty sum of money. With the exhibitors it would be more a matter of pride, than a desire to secure a few dollars.

Mr Banks said as this was something novel in our young State, & as most of the Board were without experience in these matters, he thought it would be well to procure reports from other like associations in the Atlantic States, and freely Consult them. He did not doubt that much useful information concerning the details of a fair could be thus obtained.

Mr. Taylor agreed with Mr. Van Pelt that this matter, in all its details should be fully discussed

and thoroughly matured before making public any particular scheme. He concurred with him further in his estimate, that most exhibitors would prefer a diploma, neatly framed, to such sums as were usually offered as premiums. He thought no time should be lost in bringing this matter before the public of California, and make all interested in such exhibitions to set to work early to prepare for the coming fair. For one he wished to see this matter of a fair well matured, and successfully pushed to a conclusion, and in order to open as wide a field as possible for display, he was in favor of inviting the cooperation of Horticulturists and Fruit growers, and to that end he hoped the time of holding the fair would be fixed in reference to the season of fruits and flowers.

Mr. McKibbin, wished this fair emphatically to be a Mechanics fair, nor did he wish to see others come in to divide the advantages which it promised. He entertained no question but it would prove a source of large revenue to the Institute and he was opposed to any arrangement with other industrial branches by which this revenue was to be divided or given away.

Mr. Taylor explained that his object in extending an invitation to Fruit growers and cultivators of flowers to unite with us, was to add to the attractions of the place of exhibition, not to share in the proceeds. Their co-operation he thought would aid us financially.

Mr. A. G. Williams, the Corresponding Secretary, thought it important to well consider the subject in all its details, in order to start right, and then they could hope for a successful conclusion, & that here was the proper place to thoroughly discuss it. He thought inducements should be held out to inventors to bring forward for exhibition any models of inventions and entrust them to the keeping of the Institute. He did not doubt that the Legislature would make an appropri-

ation for the benefit of the Institute, if a memorial was gotten up, setting forth our claims upon their liberality. Appropriations had been made by that body for the Agricultural Society, and he could see no sufficient reason why it should be witheld from us. He concurred with Mr. Banks in his estimate of the advantage to us of freely using such information concerning the workings of fairs, in general as may be found in the published reports of other like Institutions. We had some such in our Library, and did not question but he could procure many others through our Agent in Newyork.

The President suggested that the Board now determine upon the month in which to hold the fair, and hinted at the propriety of extending an invitation to the miners to unite with us and place on exhibition, models of the most approved machinery and tools used for mining purposes, as also specimens of Ore.

Mr. Street said the first step to be taken was to advertise at once, and give notice of the time, when the fair should be held, naming the month, and in order to insure a wide circulation, let the corresponding Secretary address a circular to every editor of every paper published in the state, requesting them to give insertion to such notice.

Mr. Van Pelt moved that August be named as the month in which to hold the fair, which motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Taylor it was voted that when the Board adjourns, it shall adjourn to meet on Monday evening at the usual hour.

On motion of Mr. McKibbin it was voted that a Committee of three be appointed to draft a circular setting forth the time and place of holding the proposed fair.

The President appointed the following viz, Messrs. McKibbin, the Corresponding and Recording Secretaries, as composing that Committee

On motion Mess. Van Pelt and Banks were added to that committee.

Mr. Street moved that the draft for the circular proposed above be presented at our meeting on monday evening; Carried

Mr. McKibbin stated that the Institute had no collector. That there were many delinquent members and that something should be done towards collecting from them their dues, or strike them off from the roll of membership.

Mr. Street moved that the recording Secretary be authorized to present the account of each delinquent, and collect in full, or in part as a matter of compromise, or strike their names from the roll of members, and for his trouble the Secretary shall have half of all so collected. Carried

Mr. McKibbin gave notice that at the next regular meeting of the Board he would submit a proposition for the Librarian to open the Reading Room in the evening and keep it open until 10 O'clock.

On motion the Chairman of the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building was authorized to procure fuel for use of Hall.

The Board adjourned.

J. B. Wyatt Sec.

The following Bills were approved by the Committee of Ways and Means and accounts and ordered to be paid by the Board of Directors at the Above meeting — Viz

D. Dwyer for coal	(No. 23.)	$ 2.50
G. L. Kenny for ~~Ream of Paper~~	(No. 24)	3.00
C. A. Calhoun for printing	(No. 25)	29.00
R. R. Williams for furniture	(No. 26)	25.00
C. B. Polhemus for Rent for Nov.	(No. 27)	75.00
P. B. Dexter for 5 Months Salary	(No. 28)	625.00
J. A. Banks for tables	(No. 29)	31.00

Omitted in proper place

Librarians Report of December 12th was received. Showing that collections had been made from all sources, Amounting to $162.00

Hall of the Institute

Monday evening Dec. 15th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and Corresponding Secretary.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz — Mess. Van Pelt, Banks, McKibbin, Kincaid, Taylor & Street.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The President called the attention of the Board to the objects for which this meeting was more especially held, viz to hear read, by the several members of the special committee appointed at the last meeting of the Board such drafts of a circular as may have been prepared by each, and to select therefrom one that should in the opinion of the Directory most clearly set forth the objects and purposes of the Institute, in holding the contemplated fair. It would also be their duty to instruct their Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, in reference to advertising for a plan for a Hall for the Institute.

Mr. McKibbin, chairman of the special Committee on Circular stated, that relying on his colleagues he had not prepared any draft of a circular, and moreover as this was intended only as an announcement to the public of the intention to have an exhibition and fair, he supposed they could in Committee of the whole, agree upon a notice that would meet the views of the Board.

Mr. H. P. Williams had prepared a draft of a circular, which he read.

Mr. Van Pelt had, since he came into the Hall ~~had~~ drawn up a form of circular which by request he also read.

Mr. Banks had also written out his views of the proposed circular, but as Mr. Williams had anticipated him, and had embodied almost all that

Board of Trustees Minutes, 11 December 1854 – 22 July 1857. VOLUME I. Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco.

he had deemed necessary to say to the public at present he felt some hesitancy in submitting his sketch to the notice of the Board. By request Mr. Banks read his draft of a Circular.

A conversation among the several Directors was held as to the general merits of the ~~several~~ papers prepared, and where each was good it was difficult to make choice of one to the exclusion of the others.

The several circulars having been read a second time, Mr. McKibbin moved that the paper submitted by Mr. Williams be adopted, with the addition of a portion of Mr. Van Pelt's draft, setting forth that at an early day a more general circular would be issued and distributed, accompanied by a Catalogue and a programme of arrangements.

The motion was further amended by Mr. Banks, by adding the following "As soon as some definite plan for the proposed fair shall have been agreed upon it will be made public."

When the motion having been put it was carried affirmatively #

Mr. McKibbin gave notice that at the proper time he would propose to the Institute to elect as honorary members, the several Editors of the interior papers of this State.

Mr. Street moved that the Corresponding Secretary be authorized to get printed the number of circulars he may deem necessary for distribution throughout the State, which motion prevailed.

Mr. Street stated that at the last meeting of the Institute the Board had been requested to instruct their Committee on Library Reading Room and Building to advertise for a plan for an edifice suited to the wants and requirements of the Institute, authorizing them to promise to the successful competitor, three hundred Dollars to be paid in Stock. Mr. Street wished the Board to determine upon the several circumstances which should serve as data to the

architects who might be induced to compete for the premium offered. The size of lot, the length and width of the proposed building, the number of stories, the uses designed for the several stories and the time within which the plans should be submitted.

A discussion on the several points named was had in which all the members of the Board participated when the following was agreed upon as the basis.

Size of Lot 75 by 137½ feet
" " Building 70. by 125 feet
No. of Stories 3 besides the basement.
The first story designed for Stores.
The second " for " " Hall, the entire size of the Building.
The third " " " Miscellaneous uses.

These several preliminary circumstances having been adopted as a basis, on motion of Mr. Van Pelt the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building were instructed to advertise for a plan for a Hall for the Institute, in accordance with the vote of the Institute at its meeting on the 3rd of the present month.

On motion of Mr. Van Pelt the Recording Secretary was instructed to procure a Blank book or books in which to open accounts with every member of the Institute.

On motion the Board adjourned to its next regular meeting the 26th day of December 1856 at the usual hour.

P. Bixby Sec.

The following is the Circular adopted by the Board

Circular.

The Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco have resolved to hold an industrial fair in said City in the month of August 1857 and they cordially invite the Mechanic, Manufacturer, Artist, Miner, Agri

cultivator, Horticulturist, and every other producer to be represented.

No pains will be spared on the part of the Institute to render this the most brilliant and interesting exhibition ever witnessed on the Pacific coast, and the hearty Cooperation of all well-wishers to the enterprize is most earnestly solicited.

Special premiums and diplomas will be awarded for articles of superior merit.

As soon as some definite plan for the exhibition shall have been matured, the public will be advised of the same.

By Order of the Institute

H. P. Williams Cor. Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday evening Dec.r 19th 1856

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President and a quorum of Members.

The President stated that the business before the Institute would be the examination of a very ingenious Lock invented by Mr. Linus Yale Jr. and hear an explanation of the principles on which it was constructed, by Mr. Paxson who was present in the Hall.

Mr Paxson then came forward and in an interesting lecture explained the principle and manner of working of the several parts of the Lock, which was highly satisfactory to the Members present.

Mr. Paxson having retired, on motion of Mr. Banks a Committee consisting of five Members was appointed to wait on Mr. Paxson at his rooms and further examine his Lock, and report at the next meeting of the Institute. The President appointed the following as constituting said Committee Mess. McKitting, Linus, Van Pelt, Banks and H. P. Williams.

On motion the Institute adjourned.

H. P. Williams

Hall of the Institute.

Friday evening December 26th 1856

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President.

On calling the Roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz. Mess. Van Pelt, Taylor, McKibbin, Street, and Banks. #

Reports from the Standing Committees of the Board being called for in their order, no report was made by the Committee on Ways and Means and Library Reading Room and Building. Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, laid before the Board a specimen of Cinnabar and a beautiful petrifaction from Tuolumne County, presented by B. A. Miller Jr. which on motion were accepted and the thanks of the Directors voted to the Donor.

Mr. Van Pelt made some enquiries in relation to a course of lectures, which, it was stated, should have been given the present season.

The President explained, stating that some difficulty had arisen from the difficulty of obtaining a suitable Hall, on such nights as would be convenient for the Institute, that the Committee having that matter in charge, were making some effort to procure a Room, or Church for the purpose, and when successful would report to the Board.

Mr. Street, said that a Mr. Waugh who had given lectures in the eastern Cities, had signified to him his willingness to deliver before the Institute one or more lectures, copies of which he had proffered to submit to his examination.

Mr. McKibbin moved that Mr. Street be a Committee of one from the Board to wait on Mr. Waugh and obtain from him the manuscript copies of the lectures spoken of, for the purpose of ascertaining by a careful reading their general merits and re-

port to the Board. Carried.

Mr. Van Pelt made enquiries concerning the lecture lately delivered before the Mechanics Institute, by Doctor Wozencroft, and asked whether the Committee on Lectures had authorized, the publication in the several papers of the City, announcing the time and place of holding such lecture, and had assumed the payment of the fee demanded by the first Congregational Church for the use of their building on the occasion referred to.

This enquiry called forth a discussion, in which the President and the Board participated.

Mr. McKibbin stated that he should in accordance with his notice heretofore given move that a Librarian be appointed, and that it should be made his duty to open the Rooms at 7 O'Clock on each evening of the week, (Sundays excepted,) to commence on Monday evening, January the 5th 1857 and to keep them open till 10 O'Clock P.M. and perform the duties appertaining to Librarian as laid down in the By-laws, for which he should receive a salary of $50. per month. The motion being put was carried affirmatively.

Mr. Taylor moved that Mr. Dexter be appointed Librarian, which motion prevailed.

Mr. Street Moved that each Officer of the Institute be authorized to procure a Key for himself, giving each access to the rooms at all hours, during the day. Carried.

Mr. McKibbin moved that hereafter a fine of one dollar should be imposed on each delinquent director who should fail to attend the meetings of the Board, unless for such delinquency a satisfactory excuse should be offered to the Board. Carried.

It was made the duty of the Secretary to notify delinquents of the passage of the above.

The Board adjourned to Januay 9th 1857 at 7 O'Clock P.M.

P. B. Cornwall Sec.

P. S. The minutes of the last meeting of the Board were read and approved.

P. S. 2. The President distributed several tickets to the lectures before the Mercantile Library Association, which had been generously presented to the Officers of the Institute by Mr. J. H. Punkitt.

On motion the thanks of the Board was voted to Mr. Punkitt.

Bills approved by the Finance Committee and ordered to be paid.

Congregational Church	for rent for Lecture	(No. 30)	$25.00
David Dwyer	2 Sacks of Coal	(No. 31.)	3.00
H. H. Bancroft.	2 Blank Books	(No. 32)	6.00
E. B. Polhemus,	Rent of Hall	(No. 33)	75.00
Gas Company	Gas to Jan. 1.	(No. 34)	3.12

At a call of the Institute

Wednesday evening January 7th 1857

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment.

Present a quorum of the members who were called to order by the Secretary. In the absence of the President Mr. Cofran was unanimously chosen Chairman of the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The minutes of the several meetings of the Board of Directors since the 3rd of December ultimo were also read.

There were no reports from the Standing Committees of the Board.

The Treasurer laid before the Institute his monthly report, which on motion was received and ordered to be spread on the Minutes.

Account of E. Cook Treasurer of the Mechanics Institute from December the 3rd 1856, to January 7th 1857.

Receipts

Dec. 3/56	Balance in Treasury	485.91
22	Rd. of Recording Secretary	772.50
	Making total amount of Receipts	$1258.41

Disbursements

Dec. 17	By Cash Paid E. B. Polhemus for Rent	$75.00	
	Evening Bulletin for Advertising	11.00	
	Alta California do	8.00	
	Torrence & Parker for Refreshments (Lecture)	31.25	
	Globe for Advertising	3.00	
	J. A. Bank for 2 Tables	31.00	
	R. B. Dexter Salary for 5 months to July 31st	625.00	
	R. R. Williams for Letters	25.00	
	W. A. Calhoun for Printing	29.00	
	G. L. Kenny for Ream of paper	3.00	
	David Dwyer for Coal	2.50	
	Total Disbursements		$842.75
	Leaving a balance in the Treasury of		$415.66

Respectfully submitted

E. Cook

Mr. Banks from the special Committee appointed at the meeting of the Institute on the 19th of Decr. made the following Report.

Your Committee appointed to examine and report upon the lock invented by Mr. Linus Yale Junr. of Philadelphia — Report

That they have carefully and minutely examined this important and interesting improvement, and believe it to be superior to any other lock now in use.

Besides involving the permutation principle to an almost unlimited extent, it is perfectly powder proof; it leaves no tell tale by which the Pick lock can be benefitted, and having no springs it is not liable to get out of order

We have also examined a small, cheap lock of Mr. Yale's invention which involves some of the essential and distinctive features of the large lock. Being exceedingly simple in its construction and entirely without springs, it is not liable to get out of order, and, we think opening it without the proper key almost impossible. Another advantage it possesses is that the key is very small and convenient to carry —

Signed

J. A. Banks
C. Van Pelt
A. B. Williams
Wm. McKibbin
John Simes

Committee

On motion the report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, and also that a copy be forwarded to Mr. Yale.

Mr. A. B. Williams from the special Committee appointed by the Institute at its meeting of Decr. 3rd Wk. to draft memorial to the legislature, and procure signatures thereto, reported progress.

At the last stated meeting of the Institute, notice had been given of a proposed amendment to Article 3. Section 7 of the Constitution by striking out the section entire, which now reads, "All members eligible to

Office must be Mechanics, and Citizens of San Francisco."

Mr. Williams in a clear and explicit manner stated the several reasons which had prompted him to ask for the striking out of the section just read, and hoped to hear a thorough discussion of the subject before a vote should be taken.

This gave rise to an animated debate in which Messrs Van Pelt, Taylor, Street, Peck, Hamblin & Cook participated, in opposition to the proposed amendment, and Messrs Punkett, S. A. Williams and A. B. Williams who ably advocated the striking out of the section.

Before a vote was taken, on motion of Mr. Van Pelt the subject was laid over till the next regular meeting of the Institute.

Mr. Banks stated that inasmuch as this was a question of no little interest to the membership, and as in his opinion all should have an opportunity of speaking and voting upon the question, he would offer the following resolution.

Resolved That each person now present be requested to see others, members of the Institute, and notify them of the pendency of the above proposed amendment to the Constitution, and invite them to take part in the discussion. # adopted. # at the next stated meeting. Mr. Cook gave notice in writing, of the following proposed amendment to Article 3. Section 7. of the Constitution.

Resolved that Article 3. Section 7 of the Constitution be so amended that it shall read.

"All members eligible to office must be Mechanics, practical Manufacturers, or Artists, and Citizens of San Francisco."

On motion the Institute adjourned to the next regular meeting, ~~February~~ the 4th at 7½ O'Clock P. M.

A. B. Berlin Sec.

Resolved That ~~Article 3~~ Section 7 of the Constitution be so amended as to read, That all members eligible to office must be mechanics, manufacturers, Artists, engineers, or engaged in some mechanical pursuits and Citizens of San Francisco

Hall of the Institute.

Friday evening January 9th 1857

Present the following Directors, Messrs. McKibbin Van Pelt, Banks and Street. There not being a Constitutional quorum present, the meeting adjourned to the next regular meeting January 23rd at the usual hour.

W. Wright Sec.

Monday evening January 19/57.

The Board met pursuant to a call of the President.

On calling the roll the following Directors ~~members~~ answered to their names, viz.—
Messrs. Banks, Kincaid, McKibbin, Swett, Taylor and Van Pelt. There was also present the Corresponding Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The President stated that he had been requested to call the Directors together, by a majority of the Special Committee appointed by the Institute at its meeting of December the 3rd to ~~memorialize~~ the Legislature in reference to a proposed amendment to the Lien Law of 1856.

The Committee were of the Opinion, that to circulate a memorial in the manner proposed would arouse among a class of our Citizens a feeling of suspicion and distrust, and would perhaps give rise to a Counter memorial, and so defeat the just expectations of the Mechanics of the City and State. Moreover the Committee were persuaded that the success of this petition depended much upon its being laid before the Legislature at an early day, and that to delay action until the next meeting of the

Institute would perhaps defeat the very end they hoped to attain. Therefore they wished the Board of Directors to relieve them from the embarrassment under which they labored. Regarding these reasons as good and sufficient he had called the Board together to take this matter into Consideration.

Mr. Banks offered the following—

Whereas the special Committee appointed by the Institute at its Meeting of December 3rd 1856. to memorialize the Legislature, have found serious difficulties in the way of the successful performance of the duties assigned them—

Therefore,

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute memorialize the Legislature to amend the present Lien Law by adding an additional section thereto.

The question having been thoroughly discussed, the preamble and resolution were adopted.

Mr. H. P. Williams having informed the Board that the special Committee had drafted a form of memorial or petition to the Legislature he was requested to submit it to the Board for consideration. The following is a copy—

" Hall of the Mechanics Institute.
of the City of San Francisco No 110. Cal St.
January 20th 1857

To the Honorable the Senate and Assembly of the State of California—

Your memorialists, Officers of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, feeling the necessity of a Legislative enactment to meet the defects of the Mechanics Lien Law, and the Recording Act, as set forth in the decision of the Supreme Court, in the Case of Julius K. Rose, versus Alexander Munie (Fourth California Reports, page 173.) would respectfully petition your honorable bodies to amend the present Mechanics Lien Law, by adding

another section to the same, in the following language, to Wit—

Section 14— Every Lien, recorded as required in the section section of this Act, shall have and take precedence of all and every Mortgage Lien or other incumbrance whatsoever, unrecorded at the time such Lien may accrue; that is to say, at the time at which the work was commenced, or the materials furnished.

And your Memorialists will ever pray"

The above having been read and considered. Mr. Banks moved that the Board adopt the above, and, when signed by the Officers of the Institute, that the Corresponding Secretary cause it to be forwarded to One of our Senators at Sacramento. Carried.

Mr. McKibbin moved that the Corresponding Secretary address a note to each of our Senators and Representatives, asking their Cooperation in carrying through the Legislature the proposed Amendment. Carried.

A Statement was received from Mr. Houston asking for a reduction of the rent of Room No. 5. now occupied by him.

Whereupon Mr. McKibbin moved that the rent be reduced to twenty Dollars per month, in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Houston, & that he can hold the same during the term of the Lease. Carried.

The following bills were laid before the Board and ordered to be paid.

H. P. Williams Bright on Package of Books from Mr. Little	(No. 35)	4.00
Bright on Webster's Dictionary		1.00
		$ 5.00
Chronicle Office for Advertising	(No. 36)	$ 10.00

Adjourned to next regular meeting.

W. B. Austin Secretary

Mr. Taylor for absence on the 9th Inst. being the regular meeting of the Board was fined one Dollar which he paid. Mess. Kincaid and Swett were excused neither of them having been made acquainted with the passage of the resolution, adopted by the Board, imposing a fine of One Dollar on Absentees.

Hall of the Institute
Friday evening January 23rd 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and Corresponding Secretary.

On Calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz— Mess. Banks, Kincaid, McKibbin, Taylor, Street and Van Pelt. Absent Mr. Swett.

Mr. Street having made satisfactory excuse for absence from the meeting on the 19th Inst had his fine remitted.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from the Standing Committees being called for.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations laid before the Board as presented by

Mess. G. & C. Merriam of Springfield Massachusetts. 1 copy of Webster's Dictionary unbinded.

From Peter S. Williamson
1 copy Gazetteer of the United States.

From Capt. Metzger.
A Quadrant Manufactured in 1754— now in good working order.

From J. Ross Browne the Author,
Joseph a Crusade in the East.

On Motion of Mr. Van Pelt the same were accepted and the thanks of the Board were voted to the donors.

From other Committees there were no reports.

Mr. Street called the attention of the Board to the fact that the State Prison lease was farming out the convict labor of the prison to certain mechanics in this and other Cities, a policy calculated to degrade the honest Mechanic, lessen in a ruinous degree his legitimate wages, and was otherwise operating injuriously to Mechanical pursuits.

Mr. McKibbin thought that this was not the proper time to consider the matter spoken of by Mr. Street. There was one subject of vastly more interest to him, and more consequence to the Institute, and that was an increase, and a large increase of valuable books in our Library. We at the present time made but a poor show of such works as were required by the members, and he thought an appropriation equal to the amount outstanding and now due from the second installment on Stock subscribed, should be made and an order forwarded at once to our Agent in New York, to be filled with such works as should be agreed upon by the Committee on Books and Donations. Should the collections of the second installment from those who have not yet paid come off slowly, then the balance, whatever that might be, could be drawn from the present fund now in the Treasury.

Mr. Taylor concurred in opinion with Mr. McKibbin as to the desirableness of an early increase of the present Library. Some provision should early be made to greatly add to the number of Books now on our shelves, and works too of such a character as would attract the attention of members and furnish them with desirable matter, and so induce a large attendance at the Rooms of the Institute.

The By-laws made it the duty of the Committee of Books and Donations to solicit books &c. for the Library and Cabinet, and from his experience that way, he was satisfied that very little could be accomplished by mere solicitation towards building up such a Library as the wants of the members demanded. He trusted an appropriation of such sum as the Institute could afford would be made and works of merit ordered.

The President stated that Mess. Freeman & Co had proffered to forward from New York for the Institute, any packages which might be entrusted to them free of charge.

Mr. Van Pelt was in favor of appropriating an amount equal to the unpaid assessment on Stock, and to meet the present emergency, would draw from the present fund on hand, and replace it as collections might be made by the Librarian. The agent of the Institute in New York had made a proposition to the Institute, through the Corresponding Sec. offering on what seemed to him at the time to be a low figure, several works, and should they prove to be of the kind and character required, it would perhaps be well to receive them on the terms proposed.

The Corresponding Secretary explained by stating, that Mr. Norton proposed selling to the Institute, about ninety volumes, the cost of which he did not recollect. The letter of Mr. Norton was then in his office, and he would if the Board thought it necessary, go for it. He thought Mr. N. would expect the cash to accompany any order for books.

Mr. Street had long been of the opinion that steps should be taken to provide for a healthy increase of the Library, but in the heretofore impoverished condition of the Treasury, he could see no way of doing so. A Library of well selected books, could not fail to be attractive, and would of itself draw to the Institute a large number of persons, who are compelled to seek in other places, such

reading matter as was suited to their taste, and which we had not been able to provide. He could suggest no better way of ~~doing~~ increasing the membership than by building up a Library containing works suited to the tastes of all. It would make the Rooms of the Institute a desirable place of resort.

Mr. Banks was enthusiastically in favor of a large increase of the Library. With the present means at hand this was not perhaps in the power of the Institute to do, and he was opposed to calling in a third installment on the stock subscribed for. He would then propose a System of subscription on the part of members. He thought in the Institute could be found fifty members who could spare & would be willing to subscibe ten Dollars each for the purpose of purchasing books suitable to our Library. He was willing to be one of that number, and doubted not many other members could be found more able, and not less willing than himself to subscibe the sum named.

Mr. McKibbin said times had undergone a great change, and thought that comparatively few Mechanics could be found, who would be willing to join in the subscription. He would prefer creating stock, and receive the ten Dollars as an installment on the stock created. For instance ten Dollars would be equal to the first and second installments on two shares of additional stock.

Messr. Street and Taylor concurred with Mr. McKibbin.

Mr. McKibbin moved that the Catalogue of Books offered to the Institute by Mr. Norton, be referred to the Committee on Books and Donations.

On Motion it was voted that the matter lie upon the table till the next meeting of the Board.

Messr. Street, McKibbin, Van Pelt

and Banks gave each their views on the proper proceedings necessary to be had by the Board, in carrying out the design of the fair.

Mr. Kincaid asked to be excused for the balance of the evening — granted.

Mr. McKibbin moved that the Secretary be authorized to procure for the use of members a water bucket, Pitcher, tumblers &c — Carried — #

On Motion the Board adjourned to Friday evening January 30th at 7 O'clock.

The following bill was laid before the Board and ordered paid.

Bulletin Office for Adv. Architect notice (No. 37) $ 10.00

T. D. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute January 30th 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and Corresponding Secretary. On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz — Messrs. Banks, McKibbin, Street, Swett, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Mr. Kincaid.

The excuse of Mr. Swett, for absence from the meeting on the 23rd Instant, was deemed satisfactory, and his fine was remitted.

Reports from Standing Committees were called for, whereupon Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, laid before the Board the following works contributed to the Library.

Presented by Henry S. Dexter,
Lyell's Geology in two volumes.
Dana's Mineralogy in one Volume
Presented by Milton S. Latham.
2 volumes Congressional Globe.

On motion the above books were accepted and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

Mr. Taylor stated that the Committee had carefully examined the memorandum of books offered for sale to the Institute, by Mr. C. B. Norton of New York, and he had been instructed by the Committee to say that although the price asked was reasonable, yet in the present state of our Library, they were not of the kind now most needed, and would therefore recommend that they be not purchased.

On motion the report of the Committee was received.

Messrs Van Pelt, Banks and Taylor, constituting the Committee on Books and Donations, each laid before the Board, a list of books, which in the opinion of each, ought to be added to the Library.

The several memoranda having been examined, Mr. McKibbin moved that One hundred and fifty Dollars be appropriated, for the purchase of such books as should be selected by the Committee on Books and Donations, and that the Committee be instructed immediately to purchase works to that amount. Carried.

The President laid before the Board a most magnificent work presented to the Institute by Messrs Barry and Patten. It was stated that the original cost to subscribers of the works was $500. or 100 guineas. The title is "Murphys Arabian Antiquities".

On motion the book was referred to the Committee on Books and Donations with instructions to report to the Institute at its next meeting.

Mr. McKibbin moved that a suitable case for the protection of the book, be ordered, and that Mr. Banks constitute the Committee to attend to that matter. The subject of lectures was again spoken of, but no definite action was had in reference thereto. Mr. Street, had, as per instructions at a previous meeting of the board, seen Mr. Manch, who declined submitting his manuscript lectures to the speection of the Committee. The report was received and the Committee discharged.

Librarians bill for services for the month of January, was approved and ordered to be paid.

For services for January	(No. 38)	$50.00
Commissions		4.50
		$54.50

The Board adjourned to the next regular meeting, February 13th at 7½ O'Clock P.M.

(Wm Dexter) Secretary

J. J. Lecount's Bill for repairing Book	No. 39	$17.00

ordered to be paid —

Omitted in proper place of minutes.

Mr. McKibbin moved that a transparency be procured, to be placed in front of the Hall, as a notice to the members and public of the location of the Rooms of the Institute, and that the chairman of the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building be instructed to procure the same. Carried.

G. D. Streets Bill for labor on Hall.	No. 40	$11.75
H. H. Bancrofts Bill for stationery	No. 42	7.00

The monthly report of the Librarian for the month of January was laid before the Board showing the total collections from all sources to have been $93.50

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday evening February 4th 1857.

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment. Present a quorum of members.

The Meeting was called to order by the Corresponding Sec. (the President being absent from the city) whereupon Mr. Sime was unanimously chosen President pro. tem.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Institute were read and approved.

This being the Annual meeting as contemplated in Article 8. Section 1. of the Constitution. Reports were called for from the Board of Directors, and Treasurer, whereupon Mr. McKibbin from the Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts of the Board of Directors presented the following Statement:

Annual report of the Committee of Way and Means of the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, ending January 31st 1857.

Gentlemen, your

In accordance with duties imposed on us by the Constitution, we respectfully submit the following report.

By referring to the report of the Committee of Ways and means, made at the last annual meeting of the Institute it is shown that the Amount of Cash in the Treasury at that time was $21.48

Since that time there has been collected, as follows,

On Account of Quarterly Dues	$949.00
" " " Stock	245.00
" " " Rent of Room No. 5.	200.00
" " " Benefit	1029.50
	$2444.98

The Disbursements have been made for the purposes and for the amounts following—

Two Free lectures	$73.00
Rent of Hall to Jan. 1st 1857 in full	650.00
forward	$723.00

To Receipts Brot forward.	$2444.98
Disbursements Brot up	$723.00
Librarians Salary from December 1st 1855. to February 1st 1857	1050.00
Current Expenses of printing and Stationery	64.00
Lights and fuel	54.94

Order of Business adopted by the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute March 23d 1866

First Roll Call

Second Reading of the Minutes

Third Reception of Communications

Bohen Fourth Report from Committee on ways Means &c

Rosekrans Fifth Report of Committee on Library Reading Room &c

Rosekrans Sixth Reports from Committee on Books & Donations

Penniman Seventh Reports of Special Committees

Eighth Unfinished Business

Ninth New Business

when the Institute was actually in debt $258.52.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed Wm McKibbin

D. Van Pett

On motion the report was received and ordered to be spread

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday evening February 4th 1857

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment — Present a quorum of members.

The Meeting was called to order by the Corresponding Sec. (the President being absent from the City) whereupon Mr. Sime was unanimously chosen President pro tem.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Institute were read and approved.

This being the Annual meeting as contemplated in Article 8. Section 1. of the Constitution. Reports were called for from the Board of Directors, and Treasurer, whereupon Mr. McKibbin from the Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts of the Board of Directors presented the following Statement:

Annual report of the Committee of Way and Means of the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, ending January 30th 1857.

Gentlemen, pres.d

In accordance with duties imposed on us by the Constitution, we respectfully submit the following report.

By referring to the report of the Committee of Ways and means, made at the last annual meeting of the Institute it is shown that the Amount of Cash in the Treasury at that time was $21.48

Since that time there has been Collected, as follows,

On Account of Quarterly Dues	$949.00
" " " Stock	245.00
" " " Rent of Room No. 5.	200.00
" " " Benefit	1029.50
	$2444.98

The Disbursements have been made for the purposes and for the amounts following —

Two Free lectures	$73.00
Rent of Hall to Jan. 1st 1857 in full	650.00
forward	$723.00

To Receipts Brot forward,		$2444.98
Disbursements Brot up	$723.00	
Librarians Salary from December 1st 1855. to February 1st 1857	1050.00	
Current Expenses of printing and stationery	64.00	
Lights and fuel	54.94	
Furniture and fitting up of Hall	186.00	
Freight on and repairing books	22.00	
Advertising for Plans for Hall	20.00	
Commissions Paid for Collecting	4.50	~~2124.44~~
Balance on hand		$320.54
To be deducted from the above balance		
Rent of Hall for January	$75.00	
Books purchased for Institute	150.00	
Gas to February 1st	4.12	229.12
which will leave a balance in the Treasury of		$91.42

Contingent Collections ending January 31st 1857 are as follows —

Quarterly Dues Collected since the last annual meeting of Institute	$941.00
Rent of Room No. 5.	200.00
Nett.	$1141.00

Contingent expenses of the Institute since the last annual meeting are as follows,

Paid Rent of Hall	$650.00
" Librarian for Services	850.00
" Printing & Stationery	64.00
" Lights and Fuel	54.94
	$1618.94
Rent Collected	1141.00
Deficit	$469.14

The Report of the Committee of Ways and Means at the last annual meeting reported $21.48 in the Treasury when the Institute was actually in debt $258.52.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed Wm McKibbin
D. Dan Pett

On motion the report was received and ordered to be spread

upon the minutes.

Annual Report of the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building.

Disbursements.

Paid for Labor in cleaning new Hall	7.00
" Frank Baker's bill for carpet + Shades	49.00
" Frost + Richards for Painting	10.00
" Wm Neagle for Plastering + Whitewashing	21.00
" C. Fuller for Gas Fixtures	30.00
" Hall and O'Brien for Gas Fitting	20.00
" Cummings for Carting Books Furniture	6.00
" J. S. Strobel Carpenter Work	10.00
" R. R. Williams, Chairs and Settees	25.00
" Carting the Same to the present Hall	1.50
" Putting up Racks for Newspapers	11.00
" 5 Doz. Newspaper Files	30.00
" J. A. Banks for two Tables	30.00
Total expenditures	$251.50
Cr. By Cash for old lathe and studding	8.00
	$243.50

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed G. B. Street, Chairman

On motion the report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Annual Report of the Committee of Books and Donations of the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 1. of Article 8. of the Constitution the Committee of Books and Donations of the Board of Directors beg leave respectfully to submit the following.

On referring to the annual report of the former Committee we learn that there were, at the last annual meeting, Books in the Library to the number of four hundred and sixty seven volumes. During the present year there have been added, by donation and purchase, three hundred and eighty volumes to the Library, making the total number to date eight hundred and forty seven

volumes, very many of which are valuable works + amongst them may be mentioned the Statutes of California to 1853 and the Journals of the Senate + Assembly for the several sessions of our legislature since we have been a State which were presented by the State Librarian. Also Butters Official map of the City of San Francisco, and a Quadrant which was made in 1754 and still in good working order. There have been also added to the Cabinet several interesting articles, which will go far to form the nucleus of a most ~~interesting~~ valuable collection of things rare and curious.

A recent donation made to the Institute seems particularly to deserve mention, both from its rarity, there being but two other copies in the United States, and the expense attending its publication, it having been furnished to subscribers at a cost of one hundred guineas, or nearly five hundred dollars. It further deserves notice at the hands of the Committee, for the superb mechanical and artistic style of the work, and as representing the past grandeur of a people, that has fallen from the high position it once occupied, and are now regarded as scarcely worthy to be classed among the civilized nations of the present age.

This rare and valuable work was generously donated to the Institute by Mess. Barry + Patten, and the Committee in pursuance of instructions from the Board of Directors now lay it before this meeting recommending that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Donors.

The Committee would further recommend that Mess. Barry and Patten each be elected honorary members of the Institute.

As a means of further increasing the number of volumes in the Library, we would respectfully suggest for their consideration of the Institute, that each member be requested to donate one or more volumes, which added to our present number would give us an amount of reading matter, that would come near satisfying the present wants of the members, and could scarcely be missed by those who would thus contribute.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed C. L. Taylor
D. van Pelt } Committee
J. A. Banks } B. & C.

On motion the report was received, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Annual Report of the Treasurer.

To the Officers and Members of the Mechanics Institute

Gentlemen

In Conformity with my duty I herewith submit my Annual report from the Month of April 1856 to January 31st 1857

Receipts

1856 April	To Cash Received from C. H. Gunn, former treasurer	$21.48
May	" " " " Rec. Secretary	407.50
November	" " " " do	1039.50
December	" " " " do	772.50
1857 January	" " " " do	93.50
	Total Receipts	$2334.48

Disbursements.

1856 May	By Paid Sundry bills as per voucher	$401.25	
November	" " " " " " "	581.32	
December	" " " " " " "	842.75	
1857 January	" " " " " " "	191.62	2016.94
	Balance in Treasury to date		$317.54

All of which is Respectfully submitted.

Signed E. Cook. Treasurer.

On motion the annual Report of the Treasurer was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Monthly Report of the Treasurer.

To the Officers and members of the Mechanics Institute.

Gentlemen,

The following is the monthly report of the Treasurer ending January 31st 1857.

January 7	To Balance on hand as per last report	$415.66
30	" Cash received of Rec. Sec.	93.50
	Total Receipts Feb. 4th 1857	$509.16

Disbursements.

January 10	By Cash Paid E. S. Flint for Rent of Congregational Church	$20.00

Forward

	Brot up total Receipts	$509.16
	" " Disbursements. $	25.00
Jan. 17	By Cash Paid H. H. Bancroft for 2 Blank Books	6.00
"	" " " D. Unger for Coal	3.00
"	" " " C. B. Polhemus for Rent of Hall	75.00
"	" " " S. F. Gas Company for Dec.	3.12
30	" " " Chronicle for Advertising for Plans	10.00
"	" " " Bulletin " " " "	10.00
"	" " " H. P. Williams for freight on Books	5.00
"	" " " Librarian Salary for Jan. + Commission 54.50	191.62
	Leaving a balance in Treasury to date of	$317.54

San Francisco January 31st 1857 Respectfully submitted.

Signed E. Cook. Treasurer

On motion the monthly report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Mr. Banks from the Committee on Books and Donations offered the following

Whereas, Messrs Barry and Patten, have, with a most noble and generous liberality presented to our Institute, "The Arabian Antiquities of Spain," by James Cavanah Murphy, a splendidly illustrated description of the vast and magnificent architectural wonders of the palmy days of the Mahometan power — a book which is remarkable not only for its cost, beauty and extreme rarity, but also for the valuable and interesting character of its contents —

Therefore,

Resolved, That the cordial and heartfelt thanks of the members of this Institute be tendered to the generous donors, for having placed within our reach a work so well worthy of the study and admiration of the historian, the antiquarian, and the lover of Artistic beauty.

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolution be furnished to Mess. Barry and Patten with the assurance that we fully realize the deep and lasting obligations under which they have placed us by favoring us with so rare and rich an intellectual treat.

Signed by the Committee.

The Corresponding Secretary having read the note of Mess. Barry and Patten, accompanying the elegant Urn referred to above, on motion the same was accepted, and the thanks of the Institute voted to the donors. It was also voted that the Corresponding Secretary furnish a copy of the above preamble and resolutions to the gentlemen named above.

Notice having been given at the stated meeting in December of an Amendment to the Constitution by striking out Section 7. Article 3. therefrom, and the same having been laid over till the present meeting, it was called up, debated, and on motion was lost.

the Institute

Mr. Cook at the last meeting of the Institute gave notice of a proposed amendment to the same Section and Article of the Constitution in the following words.

Resolved, That Section 7. Article 3 of the Constitution be so amended as to read thus.

Sec. 7. All members eligible to office must be mechanics, Manufacturers, Artists, engineers, or engaged in some Mechanical pursuits and Citizens of San Francisco.

The President put the question, shall the proposed Amendment to Art. 3. Sec. 7. of the Constitution be adopted, whereupon, on Counting the votes it appeared that two thirds of the members present voted for the Amendment, when the chair declared the amendment adopted.

Mr. Cook offered the following resolution.

Resolved, that the President and Board of Directors be instructed to have one or more lectures given before the Institute, by some Competent person, before the close of the present month.

The question being put on the adoption of the above resolution it was lost. Laid upon the table.

Mr. Cook offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be given to the Committee on our late benefit for their zealous energy in

freeing this Institute from debt.

The question being put on the adoption of the resolution, it was lost. Laid upon the table.

The following persons were proposed, and a ballot being had, were duly elected honary members of the Institute. Messrs. F. W. Macandray. Samuel Brannan. P. C. Larkin. Wm. M. Gwin. C. C. Broderick. J. W. Denver. Saml. Soule. Eugene Sullivan. Frank Pilford. W. J. Shaw. J. B. Weller. D. C. Shattuck. Samuel Purdy. J. Mely Johnson. S. P. Webb. W. H. Parrer. Gregon. Henry S. Dexter. W. J. Pardee. James Lick.

Mr. Street gave notice that at the next regular meeting of the Institute he should move that the Constitution be ~~as~~ amended in Sections 1. and 2. of Article 3. by striking out the words three Dollars, and insert one Dollar and fifty cents.

Mr. Van Pelt gave notice that at the next stated meeting of the Institute he should move to amend the Constitution by striking out from Article 4. Section 3. and Article 8. Sections 1 and 3. the word "Wednesday" and insert the word Friday.

Mr. Hamblin moved that when the Institute adjourn it shall adjourn to Friday February 20th at 7½ O'Clock P.M. in order to make nominations for Officers of the Institute for the ensuing year.

Annual Report of the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building.

Your Committee beg leave to submit the following Report.

We have expended during the year for fitting up the new hall, and for furniture the sum of $2425.50, (a detailed account of which appears in the Report of the Finance Committee.)

Your Committee would state that in ac

cordance with a resolution passed at a regular meeting of the Institute, the Board of Directors have digested and matured a plan for a Hall for the Mechanics Institute of the following dimensions, viz. The Hall to be in size seventy feet by one hundred and twenty five feet, three stories high above the basement. The first to be designed for stores, the second for a public Hall, the third for miscellaneous uses, to be located on a corner lot in a central part of the City. In furtherance of this object they have invited competition among Architects to furnish a plan in accordance with the above specifications, and to the successful competitor have offered the sum of three hundred Dollars in the stock of the Institute.

Your Committee believe that after a plan shall have been adopted, lithographed and exhibited prominently in the City, its magnificent appearance, and the prominence which such a building will assume will be a sufficient inducement to enable us to obtain a lot on very reasonable terms, and after a lot shall have been secured, we believe Capitalists will readily take the stock, and thus enable us to erect the Hall during the present year, as we have had assurances to warrant this belief.

Your Committee would earnestly recommend that the Institute take the most active measures to carry out that enterprise, believing as we do that that is our only hope of future success and prosperity, for the experience of the last three years has conclusively shown, the Institute cannot prosper when there is a continual drain from the members without returning an equivalent. And it is our opinion that the Institute never will prosper until we have a Hall of our own, from which we can derive a

a handsome revenue. Your Committee further believe that a Hall built as above will be the best paying stock in the State, and we would earnestly urge the Mechanics of this City to put their Shoulder to the wheel, and go to work with that energy, which is a characteristic of the Craftsman, and we will succeed in erecting a Hall which will be an ornament to the City, the pride of the Pacific, and a lasting monument to those by whose hands it was reared.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed, G. T. Street, Chairman.

On Motion the Institute adjourned.

P. B. Dexter
Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday Evening February 13th 1857.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and Corresponding Secretary.

On Calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz. Mess. Banks, Street, Swett, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Mess. McKibbin and Kincaid.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports of Committees were called for. Whereupon Dr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, reported that the Committee had not yet procured the transparency ordered by the Board at a former meeting, that it was in progress and would probably be completed at an early day.

The report was received, and further time granted.

Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts made no reports.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, reported that in conformity with instructions from the Board at their meeting on the 30th of January they had selected books to the amount of the sum then appropriated, and presented the list for their approval, together with the account annexed from the Noisy Carrier Book and Stationery Company.

The report was received.

On Motion it was ordered that the Bill from the Noisy Carrier Company be paid by drawing an order for the amount on the Treasurer.

Mr. Street called the attention of the Board to the subject of Mr. Roach's pamphlet on the employment of the State convicts in mechanical pursuits.

The matter having been discussed, on Motion a Committee of three was appointed consisting of Messrs Street, Van Pelt and Banks whose duty it should be to memorialize the Legislature, and report at the next

take into consideration the subject of State Prison Labor as coming in competition with honest labor.

meeting of the Board.

The subject of the fair was further discussed and laid over.

Noisy Carriers Bill.

Mechanics Institute

To Noisy Carrier Book and Stationery Company Dr.

To 172 Volumes of Books as per Memorandum No. 4th $ 150.00

On Motion the Board adjourned to the next regular meeting, February 27th at 7½ O'clock P.M.

C. W. Dexter Sec.

The following communication from California Lodge No. 1 F. & A. M. was read.

Hall of California Lodge No. 1 F. & A. M.
San Francisco February 5th 1857.

Messrs.
J. A. Banks
J. E. Kincaid
Wm McKibbin
G. D. Street
B. P. Swett
C. L. Taylor
D. Van Pelt

Board of Directors
of the Mechanics Institute,
San Francisco.

Gentlemen,

A Committee has been appointed by California Lodge No. 1 Free and accepted Masons, to confer with the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute, in relation to the building of a Hall for the use of the Masonic Fraternity in connection with your Institute.

Please advise me when it would be convenient for you to meet our Committee for consultation and oblige

Yours truly
E. W. Bourne Sec.

Until the several plans for a Hall advertised for, be considered, and one be adopted, the Board cannot enter into an arrangement of the kind proposed. The Corresponding Sec. was directed to notify Mr. Bourne, that notice would, at the proper time, be given him.

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday February 25th 1857

The Board met pursuant to a Call of the President.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names. Viz — Messrs. Banks, Kincaid, McTibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Mr. Swett.

The President stated the object of the meeting to be to take into consideration the report of this special Committee on the subject of the employment of convict labor in Mechanical pursuits.

Whereupon Mr. Street from the special Committee appointed at the meeting of the 13th Inst. presented the following report.

Your Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of State prison labor as coming in competition with honest labor of this state, and also to examine and report upon a circular on the same subject entitled "The State Prison System of California," beg leave to submit the following Report —

Your Committee after availing themselves of all the information they could obtain on the subject, are of the opinion that the present system of farming out the prison labor, and allowing the Lessee to pursue, by the use of that labor, all the different mechanical branches in competition with honest labor, is fraught with evils of the most serious character, and if continued will seriously affect the prosperity of the state, by preventing immigration of that most useful class of citizens, the Mechanic and laborer, and be ruinous to all Mechanical pursuits in the state.

Your Committee have examined the circular above alluded to, and most heartily endorse the sentiments therein contained. The writer has not only shown the evil effects of the present system, but has given some excellent ideas and valuable suggestions by which that labor may be employed to advantage to the state, without injury to private individuals. He has forcibly shown the evils of the present system, by a

comparison with twenty two of the Atlantic States, which shows that, by judicious management, the prison labor may be made a source of revenue to the state, instead of paying the enormous sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars a year to support a system by which the honest mechanic is deprived of the labor to which he is legitimately entitled.

Your Committee would recommend the following means by which the evils of the present system may be remedied.

First that the Mechanics Institute send a memorial to the Legislature praying for a change of this system.

And, secondly, that the Institute make a general call for a meeting in this City of all interested; and at such meeting make arrangements for issuing a circular calculated to create a general interest throughout the state, which should be accompanied by petitions for signatures, praying that the present system be abolished, and that the State have control of the Convicts, who shall be managed by a superintendant who shall direct their labor to such branches of industry as will not interfere with any branch that can practically be prosecuted by honest labor.

Your Committee believing this subject to be within the province of this Institute, would earnestly recommend that the most active measures be taken by which a reform may speedily be brought about; and show by our acts that we are truly the friends and defenders of the laboring classes, and that the Mechanics Institute is willing to lead the van in any reform — whose object is to defend and protect the Mechanic, and sustain the dignity of labor.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed

G. D. Street,
C. Van Pelt
James A. Banks
Committee

On motion the report was received, and ordered to be published in the California Farmer, with a request that all the papers throughout the State, friendly to the change recommended, publish the same, with a further request

that all mechanics in the State, interested in the subject matter will take immediate action thereon.

On motion the ~~Institute~~ Board adjourned.

T B Taylor Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Friday evening February 27th 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, Messrs. Van Pelt, Banks, McKibbin, and Swetts. Absent Mess. Street, Kincaid and Taylor.

There not being a quorum the meeting adjourned to next regular meeting. March the 13th at 7½ O'clock.

T B Taylor Sec.

Hall of the Institute
Monday March 2nd 1857 1.0 Clock P.M.

The Board met under a call of the President.

Present the President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names viz. Mess. Banks, Taylor McKibbin, Kincaid, Van Pelt, Street and Swett.

The President stated that Section 3. of Article 4. of the Constitution made it the duty of the Board to appoint three judges from among the members of the Institute, to superintend the pend

ing election of Officers of the Institute for the current year.

Whereupon on motion of Mr. Street the following members were appointed judges for the purpose named viz. Messrs. Coffran, Frost and Dore, and the Secretary directed to notify these gentlemen of their appointment.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations reported as having been presented to the Library the following books—

By B. B. Havens,

Water Cure Journal for 1851 2 & 3.	3 Vols	Quarto
Magazine of Art. 2 Vols bound. 1 vol. unbound	3 "	"
Waverly Magazine unbound 52 Nos	2 "	Folio

By J. A. Banks

Legends of Laconia	1 Vol.	12.
Minnie Life	1 "	12.

By C. S. Hobbs

Book Prints of the Creator	1 "	12.

On motion the Books were accepted and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

Mr McKibbin laid before the Board the monthly report of the Librarian for February, which the committee had examined and found correct. The Collections amounted to One hundred and twelve 87/100 Dolls.

The report was received.

The following Bills were allowed and ordered to be paid.

Librarian's bill for services for Feb.	62.00
D. Dwyer for Coal	3.00
Chronicle Office for Advertising	3.00
Bulletin Office do	2.50

Mr Van Pelt called for a report from the Special Committee appointed at a meeting of the Board on the 17th of March 1856.

Whereupon Mr Williams Corresponding Secretary, from that Committee reported, that in consequence of the peculiar circumstances arising in

the City soon after the Committee had been appointed had prevented any active effort being made to carry out the purpose of their appointment. That the plans which were about being matured by the Board would render any action of the Committee, at present unnecessary.

On motion the report was received and the Committee discharged.

The President chairman of the special Committee on lectures, stated the various obstacles which had unexpectedly been thrown in the way of the Committee, in their efforts to have a series of Lectures given before the Institute the past season,

On motion the report was received and the Committee discharged.

The Secretary stated that he had received, and then held in possession, five different plans for a Hall for the Institute, that while in his custody they had not been seen by any person what ever, that the wrappers on each had not been removed, and that the names of parties submitting them was unknown to any member of the Board,

Whereupon, the Corresponding and Recording Secretaries were instructed to retire with the several plans to the Reading Room, and there open them, and then lay them before the Board for examination, withholding from the Directors any paper which might make Known the names of the persons submitting them.

Mr. Streck Offered the following resolution which was adopted.

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Directors pledge their honor not to discuss with any person outside of this Board, the merits or demerits of any plan for a Hall submitted to them for examination, untill one shall have been adopted for a Hall of the Mechanics Institute.

The Secretaries of the Institute then laid

before the Board all the plans which had been offered.

Having spent some time in the examination of the several Plans before them, at 4 O'Clock the board adjourned to 7½ O'Clock.

The Board assembled at the hour appointed every member being present and remained in Session till 10½ O'Clock, when they adjourned to 1 O'Clock P.M. tomorrow.

Tuesday March 3rd 1857

The Board assembled at the hour to which they had adjourned. Present the President and all the Directors.

On motion of Mr. Taylor it was unanimously agreed that a vote should be taken on the various plans submitted at 9 O'Clock precisely.

The hour having arrived when the vote should be taken, and Mr. McKibbin, for sufficient reasons being excused from voting, a ballot was had which resulted as follows—

For the adoption of Plan marked Pacific there were three votes viz— Messrs. Kincaid, Street and Swett.

For the adoption of Plan marked Mechanic, there were three votes— viz. Messrs Banks, Van Pelt and Taylor.

There being a tie vote, the President cast his vote for the Plan marked Pacific, which Plan was then adopted.

The Board then adjourned to meet at 1 O'Clock P.M. tomorrow.

1 O'Clock P.M. March 4th
Not a quorum present.

March 5th 1 O'Clock

The Board met and adjourned Sine Die.

T. Dexter Sec.

Mechanics Institute

Lib of Noisy Carrier B. & S. Company

Burns Works	1 Vol.
Combe Physiology	1 "
Coopers Works	33 "
Irvings "	2 "
Scotts Poetical Works	1 "
" Prose do	12 "
Bulwers " "	1 "
Marryatts Works	1 "
Bentons 30 years in U.S. Senate	2 "
Shakespeare Works	1 "
Arabian Nights – Larg – Ill	1 "
Spectator	1 "
Ben Johnson	1 "
Don Quixotte Larg – Ill.	1 "
Franklins Life & Essays	1 "
Willis Works	1 "
Goldsmiths Poetical Works	1 "
Popes Poetical do	1 "
Bowles on Education	1 "
Daniel Webster	1 "
Living Orators of America	1 "
Autobiography of an Actress	1 "
De Aubignes Reformation	1 "
Dicks Works	2 "
Prescotts Philip of Spain	2 "
Macaulays History of England	4 "
Bartletts Narrative	2 "
Anthropology	1 "
Ship Carpenter	1 "
Mandeville	1 "
Hills of Shuttemuc	1 "
Gerard the Lion Killer	1 "
Piazza Tales	1 "
Oriental acquaintances	1 "
Life of Calhoun	1 "
43 Broughams Poetical Works	1 "

Massey's Exhibition Recitons	1 Vol
Lilly Auson	1 "
Spaulding's	1 "
Novels 72 vols unbound or in paper covers	96

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday evening March 4th 1857.

This being the Annual meeting of the Institute for the election of Officers for the Current year, the Institute met in accordance with a notice published for two of the City papers, for twenty days previous, as required by Section 3. of Article 4. of the Constitution.

Present the President and a quorum of members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors were also read, for the information of the members present.

The President laid before the Institute his annual Report, as required by section 4. of Article 7 of the Constitution which, having been read by the Secretary, was, on motion received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

To the Members of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco.

Gentlemen,

As you are aware, I was, through your partiality, chosen Vice President of this Institute, 12 months since, and only a few months elapsed before the duties of the President devolved upon me, in consequence of his resignation and removal from the City.

It now becomes my duty in accordance with a provision of the Constitution, to furnish a written report of the general transactions of the Institute, and at the same time make such suggestions as may seem best calculated to promote its prosperity.

Upon my induction into ~~the Presidential~~ the Presidential Chair, I found the Institute embarrassed with a debt of of seven hundred Dollars, and the attention of a large portion of the members withdrawn from its interests, by reason of the unexampled excite which at that time pervaded our entire community. To add further to the difficulties of my position I found

that the available resources of the Institute were insufficient to meet the current expenses, and that in consequence we were daily becoming more deeply involved in debt with a decreasing revenue. With these gloomy prospects before us, frequent meetings of the Board of Directors were held, and many plans suggested for relief. And I now with unfeigned pleasure bear testimony to the untiring zeal and energy displayed by the Officers generally, during these the darkest days which have clouded our prospects of ultimate success, in achieving all that was contemplated at the time of our organization. With the view of adopting some means to relieve the Institute from the embarrassments and difficulties which at that time surrounded us, and with the determined purpose of adopting a policy which would most certainly advance the prosperity, they worked together untiringly and harmoniously.

The recording Secretary and Librarian perceiving the inability of the Institute, to meet her liability that the decreasing revenue was wholly inadequate to pay the current expenses, generously proposed to perform his duties gratuitously, until such change in the affairs as would enable the association to make him some compensation for the service he might render.

This he did promptly and efficiently until all the debts were paid, and a balance left in the Treasury, when the Directory again voted him a limited salary. This magnanimous course of Mr. Dexter reduced the current expenses within the available resources.

While the attention of the Board of Directors was directed to the maturing of the several plans contemplated by them for the removal of the debt which had been incurred, a communication was received from Mrs. Julia Dean Hayne, at the instance of a Committee previously appointed by themselves, for that purpose, tendering a benefit to our Institute. This voluntary tender of her valuable services was cordially received, was promptly acted upon, and through the active exertions of the members generally, a sufficient number of tickets

were disposed of to fill the theater to overflowing. The proceeds exceeded our highest expectations, netting to the Institute after paying all contingent expenses $1029.5c. Our liabilities were immediately discharged, and the credit of our association restored. Since then the Institute has met every claim upon the treasury and has moved on prosperously.

By the ~~annual~~ Report of the Committee of Ways and Means made, February 6th 1856 it appears there was then a balance in the Treasury of $21.4c. Since that time, as shown by the last annual report of the same Committee, there has been received from all sources the sum of $2448.98. of which there had been disbursed ~~up~~ to February 4th 1857 $2121.50 leaving a balance at that time in the Treasury of $327.48.

The Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, in their annual report, made at the last meeting of the Institute, express the confident belief that the measures originated by the Board of Directors for the erection of a Hall, and which are now in progress, may be successfully carried through, and at an early day an edifice may be erected meeting the wants of the Institute, affording a handsome revenue to the treasury, while "it will be an ornament to the City, the pride of the Pacific, and a lasting monument to those by whose hands it shall have been erected."

The Annual report of the Committee on Books and Donations shows that there have been added to the Library the past year nearly 400 volumes. Of these one hundred and seventy two were purchased, the balance were generously donated. This statement will show that the whole number of volumes in the Library to be nearly 900 volumes. Many of these are works of great merit, and among them it may not be out of place to mention "Murphy's Arabian Antiquities", a rare and costly work, which was originally furnished to subscribers at a cost of 100 guineas, or nearly $500. There are only two other copies of this work in the U.S. This was a gift from Messrs. Barry and Patten of this City.

And again I avail myself of this occasion to congratulate the members of this association on the present and prospective prosperity and success of the Institute, and trust that those whom your suffrages may delegate to administer its affairs during the coming year, may meet with no formidable opposing obstacles, in this laudable endeavor to build up an Institute, that shall rival the older kindred organizations in the Atlantic cities.

To this end I would suggest for your consideration, that prompt and energetic action be had in the matter of the coming fair, that all the preliminaries of such exhibition be speedily settled, and the whole affair be pushed through to successful completion. If properly managed it may be made a source of considerable revenue, and at the same time reflect great credit to the Institute.

I would further suggest that active efforts be made to increase the membership, by urging the Mechanics, Manufacturers, Artists and others of the City to unite with us in carrying out the objects of our organization, believing them to be such as to commend themselves to every intelligent man in this community.

A plan for a Hall has been adopted by the present Directory, which will be submitted for examination at an early day, and it will remain for their successors to mature the measures necessary to its completion, and I trust to superintend within the present year, its dedication to the purposes for which it is designed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. Elliott. Pres.

On motion the report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Monthly report of the Treasurer.

Account of E. Cook Treasurer of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, from January 31st to February 28th Receipts

Balance as per last report	317.54
Cash received from Librarian	112.50
Total receipts	$430.04

Receipts Brot forward. $430.04

Disbursements.

Oct. 18	By Cash Paid Noisy Carrier for Books	$150.00	
28	" " " H. H. Bancroft, Stationery	7.00	
	" " " Librarian	50.00	
	" " " Gas Company	4.37	
	" " " J. J. Lecount Lettering &c	17.00	
	" " " G. D. Street, fitting up Room	10.75	239.12
	Balance in Treasury		$190.92

All of which is respectfully Submitted

E. Cook, Treasurer.

On motion the report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

The President announced the next business in order would be the consideration of a proposed amendment to the Constitution, notice of which had been given at the last regular meeting of the Institute by Mr Street, in these words. I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Institute I shall move that the Constitution be ~~to~~ amended in Sections 1. and 2 ~~of~~ Article 3. by striking out the words "three Dollars" and inserting "one Dollar and fifty cents". The same having been considered, the question was put, Shall the proposed amendment be adopted? when more than two thirds voting in the affirmative it was declared adopted.

Mr. Van Pelt's proposed amendment to the Constitution was then taken up, notice of which had been given at the last stated meeting of the Institute, in these words

I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Institute, I shall move to strike out from Section 3. of Article 4. and from Sections 1 and 3. of Article 8. the word "Wednesday" and insert the word "Friday." The same having been considered, the question was put, Shall the proposed amendment be adopted? when more than two thirds voting in the affirmative, it was declared adopted.

The President stated that the next business

in order would be the election of Officers of the Institute for the ensuing year.

Mr Perkins moved that the thanks of the Institute be tendered to the present officers for their efficiency & ability in conducting the affairs of the Institute to the present time, which was carried unanimously.

The judges appointed by the Board of Directors viz. Messrs Cofran, Brest and Doe, ~~appointed~~ the Corresponding and Recording Secretaries to act as Clerks, when on counting all the votes cast, they declared the following gentlemen to be duly elected to the offices opposite their names respectively as follows

John Sime	President.
G. Elliot	Vice President.
H. P. Williams	Corresponding Secretary.
P. B. Dexter	Recording Do.
J. E. Kincaid	Treasurer.
H. Van Pelt	Directors
G. D. Street	
C. L. Taylor	
J. A. Banks	
Wm McKibben	
Eli Cook	
J. E. Davis	

On motion the above named officers were declared to be unanimously elected to their respective offices.

Mr. H. P. Williams, Corresponding Secretary, submitted the following resolution which was adopted—

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to request of our Senators in Congress the 5th Vol. of Schoolcraft's Indian Tribes of the United States, the 2d 3d + 4th Volumes of the Japan Expedition, and such other works, as may be necessary to complete the series of works now in the Library.

Mr. Williams stated that he should perform this duty at an early day, but would prefer to act under instructions from the Institute.

The following named gentlemen were pro

posed as honorary members of the Institute, when a ballot being had they were unanimously elected.
Viz Messrs P. A. Peavy. B. A. Patton. and P. A. Roach.
The Officers elect were notified to meet at the Rooms of the Institute tomorrow at 1 O'clock P.M. and organize in accordance with Section 5. of Article 4. of the Constitution On Motion the Institute adjourned.

P B Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute
March 7th 1857

The Board of Directors and other officers elect met this evening to perfect their organization.

The following is the Certificate of the judges who superintended the election for Officers for the Current year, held in the Hall on the evening of the 4th Inst.

Hall of the Institute, March 4th 1857

We, the undersigned, judges of the election of Officers of the Institute held this evening, under our superintendance certify, that the following gentlemen were duly and Constitutionally elected to the Office opposite their names respectively— Viz—

John Sime, President.
G. Elliott Vice President.
H. B. Williams Corresponding Secretary.
P. B. Dexter Recording do
J. E. Kincaid Treasurer.
D. Van Pelt }
W. McKibbin }
J. A. Banks }
G. D. Street } Directors
C. L. Taylor }
Eli Cook }
Isaac E. Davis }

Signed George Lafrew }
H. Frost. } judges
B. Moore. }

Present the President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries, and the following Directors Viz— Messrs Banks, Davis, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Messrs. Cook & McKibbin— The minutes of the proceedings of the last meeting of the former Board were read and approved.

The President stated that having been elected to preside over the deliberations of the Institute and the Board of Directors, he availed himself of the occasion to assure the Board of his hearty cooperation in furthering the several plans in progress, and assist as far as in his power to

bring forward and mature other plans, in order to further the interests ~~and~~ promote the prosperity, and extend the usefulness of the Institute. The several projects which had been originated, but were being matured by the last Board, whose successors we were, met his approval, and trusted that all would work together zealously and harmoniously to carry out the several measures which had been left for them to complete.

Mr. Van Pelt, in the name, and in behalf of the officers, expressed his gratification at the remarks of the President, and doubted not, with his promised co-operation the interests of the Institute would be properly cared for, and its prosperity promoted. Had his individual wishes been consulted, he would not have been again placed in the Directory, as he prefered that another, abler than himself should be returned to that position. He did not doubt from his intimate knowledge of the Officers present, that they would labor together harmoniously and efficiently.

Mr. Street stated that he had drawn up a resolution which he had designed to lay before the last Board, in reference to the return, to the several competing Architects, the several plans for a Hall which had been submitted for adoption, but which had not been accepted. He asked that it be read.

Whereas, By a resolution of the Institute it was made the duty of the Board of Directors to invite competition among Architects for Plans for a Hall for the Mechanics Institute of this City, and in accordance therewith a number of Architects in this State have sacrificed their time and money in offering their knowledge and ~~Architectural~~ Skill for the Benefit of this Institute, and whereas, the Board of Directors, by a vote of the majority, have adopted the one designated by the word Pacific, and in making such choice, have necessarily declined the acceptance of other plans of very great merit, now therefore

Resolved That this Board tender a vote of thanks to each and all the competitors for such plans for their efforts in behalf of the Institute.

Mr. Van Pelt amended by making it the duty of the corresponding Secretary to return the plans to the several parties submitting them, enclosing a copy of the above resolution, and accompanying them by letter from himself. As amended the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Street stated that the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building of the last Board had been instructed to enquire of the Lithographers of the City the charge for lithographing the plan for a Hall which had been adopted, and he would now report that that duty had been performed, and that the lowest offer for 100 copies of plan, of medium size, was three hundred dollars, one half to be paid in Cash, the Balance in stock of the Institute. For 100 copies of increased size four hundred dollars, to be paid in Cash and Stock in like proportion. This charge was regarded as too high.

The President announced the Standing Committee of the Board.

Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts.

Messrs McKibbin
Van Pelt
Cook

Committee on Library Reading Room and Building.

Messrs Street
Cook
Davis

Committee on Books and Donations.

Messrs Taylor
Banks
Van Pelt.

The President called the attention of the Committee of Ways ~~and~~ Means and Accounts, to the duty of examining the Accounts of the late Treasurer in order to the transfer to his successor of the Books, papers and moneys in his hands belonging to the Institute, and also to examine and report upon the sufficiency of the Bond of the Treasurer elect.

Mr. Banks moved, and the motion

prevailed, that hereafter a fine of one dollar should be imposed on each delinquent director who should fail to attend the meetings of the Board, unlesp for such absence a satisfactory excuse should be offered to the Board.

The Board fixed upon Saturday evenings as the time for holding their future meetings.

Mr. Street remarked upon the wants of the Institute in reference to another Book Case, the present one being insufficient to receive hardly one half of the Books belonging to the Institute.

The Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building were instructed to contract for one on the best possible terms to the Institute.

On motion the Board adjourned to Saturday evening next at 7½ o'clock.

T. B. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute
Saturday March 14th 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President and Treasurer and at 8 o'clock on calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names by Messrs. Cook, Davis, McKibbin and Van Pelt. Absent Messrs Banks, Street and Taylor. Subsequently Messrs Street and Taylor appeared, when the Board was called to order.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Van Pelt Messrs Street and Taylor were excused for their want of promptness in attending at the hour to which the Board had adjourned.

Reports from the several standing committees of the Board were called for, whereupon Mr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, stated that he had not been able to make any arrangement for the putting up of a Book Case, and in reference to that matter, could do no more than report progress. That in a conversation with Mr. Clark, who had drafted the plan for a Hall, marked "Pacific", which plan had been adopted by a Majority of the Board, he learned that Mr. Clark declined making a perspective drawing of his design for a Hall for the Institute, such as would be required in order to be framed, but that he would cheerfully furnish a perspective for a Lithographer. That the former would require an amount of labor and time, that he thought the Board, when they come to reflect upon the matter, would not demand of him. There were two or three parties who would make lithograph drawings of the design for a Hall which had been adopted, Mr. Butler would furnish one hundred copies for two hundred dollars cash, and another party would do the same work for three hundred dollars, one half to be paid in cash

the balance be received in stock of the Institute. Mr Street was of the Opinion that the last was the most favorable to the Institute, and for the Cash payment, as he did not wish to exhaust the Treasury, he thought it might be made up by subscription. He would however like to hear the opinions of the Directors.

A conversation among the several members as to the conditions upon which Mr. Clarks design had been adopted, arose, in which Messrs. Van Pelt, Cook McKibbin and Street participated. No further special action was had and the matter was referred back to the Committee.

Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts, made no report.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, reported, that there had presented to the Library since the last meeting several volumes,

By J. W. Denvey

Smithsonian Report for 1855.

By G. R. Ward

Patent Office Reports for 1855. 2 vols
Message & Documents 1855-6 3. "
do do 1856-7 1. "

On motion the several volumes were accepted and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

The Correspondence between Hon. W. F. Shaw of the Senate, and the Corresponding Secretary in reference to a Mechanics Lien Law was read, as also a communication addressed by the Cor. Sec. to Governor J. Neely Johnson, asking him to interpose his veto to an obnoxious bill, an amendment to the Lien law of April 1856.

This gave rise to an animated discussion in which the President and all the members of the Board participated, in opposition to and in defense of the act above refered to.

On motion of Mr. Street the action of the Corresponding Secretary in his Correspondence with the

gentleman named, was approved. #

At a late hour the Board adjourned to Saturday next March 21st at 7½ O'Clock.

The Bond of Mr. Kincaid, the Treasurer was refered to the Committee of Ways and Means, to report at the next Meeting.

The following Accounts were approved.

Hall of the Institute.

Saturday evening March 21st 1857.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and on Calling the Roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz. Messrs. Banks, Cook, Davis McKibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from the Standing Committees of the Board being Called for Mr. McKibbin from the Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts submitted the following

Report of the Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts, of the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, March 21st 1857.

Your Committee have examined all Books, papers and Vouchers of the Late Treasurer, E. Cook, which we found Correct, and which show the following results

Receipts

Received from E. H. Gough his Predecessor.	$ 21.48
" " Librarian from May 7th 1856 to February 27th 1857	2425.50
Total receipts	$2446.98
Disbursed, for which the vouchers are on file	2256.06
Leaving a balance in the Treasury of	$ 190.92

The Committee have also examined the bond submitted by the Treasurer, J. E. Kincaid, found it Correctly drawn, the bondsmen sufficient and recommend its approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed Wm McKibbin
D. Van Pelt
Eli Cook

On motion the report was received and ordered

to be spread upon the minutes.

On motion the bond was accepted and ordered to be recorded in the proceedings.

Bond of the Treasurer.

Know all men by these presents, that we John E. Kincaid as principal and John O'Brien and J. B. Leinton, as sureties of the City of San Francisco, California, are held and firmly bound unto James A. Banks, Eli Cook, Isaac E. Davis, Wm McKibbin, G. D. Street, C. L. Taylor and David Van Pelt, composing the Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, in the just and full sum of three Thousand Dollars, lawful money of the United States of America, to be paid to them as the Board of Directors of said Mechanics Institute, their assigns or successors in office, to which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves and each of us our heirs executors, Administrators and assigns, firmly by these presents,

Sealed with our Seals, dated this 14th day of March A. D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty seven.

Whereas the above bounden John E. Kincaid has been chosen ~~the~~ Treasurer of the Mechanics Institute as aforesaid by reason whereof he will receive into his hands divers sums of money, goods and Chattels and other things the property of said Institute.

The Condition of this obligation is such that if the above bounden John E. Kincaid his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns shall well and truly perform every and all the duties appertaining to the office of Treasurer of said Mechanics Institute as laid down and defined in the present Constitution and By-laws of said Institute, and pay out properly disburse, and satisfactorily account for all moneys and funds that may come into his hands as Treasurer as aforesaid, and shall pay and deliver over to his successor in office, or any person duly authorized to receive the same all such balances or sums of money goods and chattels and other things which shall

appear to be in his hands and due by him to the said Institute as Treasurer aforesaid, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and effect.

Sealed and delivered in presence of G. P. Knox

J. E. Kincaid (Seal)
John O'Brien (Seal)
J. B. Quinton (Seal)

State of California
County of San Francisco } ss.

On this 14th day of March A. D. One thousand eight hundred and fifty seven before me Geo. P. Knox, a Notary Public in and for said County, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared John E. Kincaid, John O'Brien, and J. B. Quinton, personally known to me to be the individuals described and who executed the annexed instrument, and they acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily, and for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal, the day and year last above written.

(Seal)

Geo. P. Knox
Notary Public

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building, stated that he had been waited upon by one of a Committee of a Club known as the "Pacific Congress", who enquired upon what terms per month they could have the privilege of meeting one evening in the week, in the Reading Room, for the purpose of discussing the various questions which might come before them. And as a member of the Library Committee he was in favor of granting the privilege asked for at $12.50 per month.

After some discussion as to the right to exclude any member of the Institute from being present at the debates, and Mr. Banks' motion to let them have it at $10. per month having been lost, It was, on motion carried

that the Pacific Congress be permitted to meet on such night of each week as shall not interfere with any meeting of the Institute or Board of Directors, for $12.50 per month. and that the Cor. Sec. advise the Committee from the Club of the terms. Mr Street stated that he had learned from the Librarian that Mr. Ole Bergson had agreed to put up a Book Case in the vacant niche, to correspond in appearance with the present one, for Sixty dollars payable in Stock.

On Motion the Librarian was authorized to close the Contract on the terms proposed.

Committee on Books and Donations made no report.

The subject of Plan for a Hall to be lithographed was called up.

A lithographic of the City would furnish one hundred Copies of a perspective of the Contemplated Hall for $200 in Cash, or $250 in Stock and Cash. The latter proposition was thought to be most favorable to the Institute. The Cash portion it was proposed to raise by selling Stock to the Amount required.

The Committee on Library Reading and Building was instructed not to contract for lithographing until the sum deemed necessary $125 should be realized from the sale of Stock, or from installments on Stock already taken. Some Conversation on the subject of transparency was had by the Directors, when the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building was instructed to cause the same to be put up at an early day.

In Answer to a question by Mr. McKibbin the Corresponding Secretary stated that he had heard nothing farther from Sacramento on the subject of Amendment to the Lien Law.

On motion of Mr. Cook the Rec. Secretary was instructed to report the number of Shares of Stock subscribed for, and the Amount forfeited, at the next meeting of the Board.

The President called the attention of the Directory to the subject of the Contemplated fair, and urged the necessity of perfecting the preliminary arrangements at an early day. There was much labor to be performed in order to make the affair creditable to the projectors and the Institute.

The Board adjourned to Saturday evening March 28th at 7½ O'Clock.

C. F. Beyer Sec.

At a call of the Institute.

Saturday evening March 28th 1857.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the following Directors viz. Mess. Banks Cook, Davis, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Wm McKibbin.

In the absence of the President and Vice President the Board was called to order by the Secretary, whereupon Mr. Van Pelt was chosen President pro tem.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from the standing Committees were called for, whereupon Mr. Street from the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building stated that he had had a further conversation with a Lithographer of the City, who adhered to his former proposition to strike off for the use of the Institute, one hundred copies of the plan for a Hall which had been adopted by the Board, for Two hundred and fifty dollars, to be paid in the Stock of the Institute and Cash. This the Committee regarded as the best proposition which had been made and advised that the Board instruct this Committee to order the work to proceed

as it would probably require a month at least to complete it. It would be printed on a sheet 21 X 30 inches.

Mr. Cook moved to reconsider the action of the Board had at the last meeting, instructing the Committee on Library, Reading Room and Building not to close the Contract with Mr. Butler until the sum there named, $125. should be raised on Stock, which motion prevailed.

Mr. Cook then moved that the Committee be authorized to close the Contract with Mr. Butler at once, which motion was also carried.

It was urged that little difficulty would be experienced in raising the sum desired, among the members, who would cheerfully pay one or more installments on the shares subscribed.

Committee of Ways and Means laid before the Board the monthly statement of the Librarian, from which it appeared that there had been collected on account of Quarterly dues 198. 00
" " Installments on Stock 60. 00
" " Rent of Room No. 5 20. 00
Total $278. 00.

The same Committee laid before the Board the following bills, which they had examined, found correct and recommended that they be paid.

Chronicle Office for Advertising for Plans,	$3. 00
Johnston & Reay for Coal Scuttle & Shovel	2. 50
John Shirley for water jar &c	5. 25.
San Francisco Gas Company for February	9. 37
D. Moyer for Coal	3. 00
Evening Bulletin for Advertising for Plans	2. 50
H. H. Bancroft & Co for Stationery	1. 38
Librarian for Services for March &c	51. 00
C. B. Polhemus for Rent of Hall to March 1st	150. 00

On Motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the amts.

The Committee on Books and Donations made no report.

In compliance with instructions from the Board at its last meeting the Secretary submitted a report of which the following is a synopsis.

Since the organization of the Institute there have been subscribed for 512 shares of stock, by 319 persons. Seventy four persons who have subscribed for 127 of the above shares have failed to pay any thing.

One or more installments have been paid on 385 shares by 245 members, of which 197 shares have been forfeited to the Institute by reason of the non-payment of dues for more than six months, and 188 shares are represented by members in good standing.

The report was ordered to be placed on file.

Mr. Cook moved and the motion prevailed that the Sec be authorized to ascertain the cost and contract for suitable frames for the engraved likenesses of Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Webster and Genl. J. A. McDougall. The Secretary was instructed to have the work done for Stock and Quarterly dues.

In answer to an enquiry made of him, Mr. Street stated that not having conversed with Mr. Clark since the last meeting, he was not able to say what progress had been made by him in preparing a perspective of his plan for lithographing. He would see Mr. Clark at an early day.

On motion of Mr. Cook the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building was instructed to search out a desirable location of a lot ~~on~~ which to erect a Hall, ascertain upon what terms it may be secured, and report at an early day to the Board.

On Motion of Mr. Banks the President and vice president were added to the Committee.

The subject of the proposed fair was called up and considered. Messrs.

Street, Banks, Cook and Taylor urged the necessity of going early and earnestly to work to mature their plans, and none doubted its importance as a source of Revenue to the Institute.

Board adjourn.

Mr. Cook moved that when the Board adjourn, it shall adjourn to next Saturday evening at the usual hour, and that the subject of the fair be made the special business of the meeting.

After some further discussion on the advantages likely to accrue to the Institute on the successfully carrying out, and properly managing of the fair the Board adjourned.

J. B. Lexton Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday evening April 3rd 1857

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and a quorum of the members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The proceedings of the Board of Directors at their several meetings since the last meeting of the Institute were also read.

The Treasurer's monthly report was read whereupon on motion it was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Mechanics Institute.

In Account with J. E. Kincaid Treasurer.

1857		
March 25th	By cash from Eli Cook late Treasurer	$190-92
April 1st	" " " Librarian	217 25
	Total Receipts	$408.17

Disbursements.

To cash Paid Librarian for Salary for March	$51.00	
" " " H. H. Bancroft Stationery	1.38	
" " " Chronicle Office, Advertising	3.00	
" " " Johnston & Reay - Shutter &c	2.50	
" " " John Shirley Water pipe &c	5.25	
" " " Bulletin Office - Advertising	2.50	
" " " Gas Company - for Feb	9.37	
" " " D. Dwyer for Coal	3.00	
" " " E. B. Polhemus Rent to March 1st	150.00	228.00
Balance on hand		$180.17

Respectfully Submitted -

April 3rd 1857 J. E. Kincaid Treas

Mr. Purkitt stated that the Immigration Aid Society of this City - from whose labors much benefit, it was hoped would result to both this City, and the State at large, had at the present time no place wherein to hold their meetings, moved, and the motion prevailed, that a Room in the Hall of the Institute be tendered to the Board of Directors of the Immigration Aid Association of California for the transaction of their business, until such time

as they may require a permanent Room for themselves, and that the Corresponding Secretary make known to that association the passage of this resolution.

Mr. H. F. Williams reminded members of their implied pledge to exert themselves in bringing into the Institute all others who could be induced, by the advantages offered, to unite themselves to the membership. The dues had been reduced to one Dollar $1.00 per Quarter, placing it within the power of every Mechanic in the City to avail themselves of its privileges. The membership can and ought to be greatly enlarged, in order to raise a revenue sufficient to cover all the necessary expenses of the Institute.

Mr. Gallacar, after making some remarks on a late order of the Board of Supervisors, requiring Manufacturers and Mechanics to pay license for the privilege of pursuing their legitimate calling, moved that a Committee of five be appointed, to draft and circulate a petition, to the Board of Supervisors praying for a modification or repeal of the same, which motion prevailed.

The President appointed as such Committee - Mess. Gallacar, H. F. Williams, Cook, Banks and Roach.

The oppressiveness, and injustice of the Order were clearly set forth by Messrs. Purkitt, Banks, Swett, Street, Rouschert and Roach.

Mr. Roach thought that it would be a proper occasion for the Committee on Petition to distribute circulars among the Mechanics and Manufacturers of the City, setting forth the advantages to them of becoming members of the Institute, and showing them the easy terms upon which a membership may be secured.

Mr. Fisk offered the following Resolutions.

Resolved, That the Committee on Books and Donations be instructed to make out a Schedule of Books, (subject to the approval of the Board of Directors,) not to exceed one thousand Dollars cost in Newyork, and correspond with W. T. Coleman of Newyork, requesting him to purchase the same, and ship in a Clipper ship to this house here and to be paid for when

delivered.

Resolved, That upon the arrival of said books, if there should not be funds in the Treasury to pay for the same we the members of the Mechanics Institute, bind ourselves to pay our pro rata amount sufficient to meet all expenses on the same, and such amount to be placed to our credit for quarterly dues, and installments as they may become due.

Resolved, That said Committee be instructed in their correspondence with W. T. Coleman to set forth the embarrassed condition of the Mechanicse business of this city, and invite him and his friends to add by contribution such books and materials as they may feel disposed to, and forward them in the same way.

On motion of Mr. Taylor the above resolutions were referred to the Board of Directors.

The President stated that he availed himself of the present occasion, the first monthly meeting of the Institute since the annual election, to express his views in reference to the condition and prospects of the Institute. He felt a lively interest in the association, and was ready to do all in his power as an individual member to promote its prosperity. But without the aid and co-operation of all the members it could not be expected that the Officers alone could build up an Institute, such as the Mechanical interests of this city demanded. He was gratified to see so many present this evening, and trusted that the future meetings would show an increased number, who would express their views on the several matters of interest which at the present time engrossed the attention of their Officers, and suggest others, and from this exchange of views, they could give and receive information, and aid, in many ways, their Officers in pushing forward to completion the proposed fair, and the building of a Hall. He urged the membership at large to exhibit, by a hearty co-operation with the officers in the works in progress, a concern for the association, its prosperity and usefulness. The fair if properly brought forward and judiciously managed would prove a

source of revenue to the Institute, and reflect credit upon the membership, and there should be an interchange of views in order that nothing should be omitted which might mar its success. He would again remark that the officers, however zealous they might be in their endeavors to bring forward measures to further its interests, could accomplish but little unless aided by all the members.

Mr. Roach again suggested the importance of placing in the hands of the Committee on Petition a number of circulars for distribution among the Manufacturers and Mechanics of the City, setting forth the terms of admission to membership, and other particulars showing its advantages, objects &c.

Mr. Taylor suggested that as there were on hand some four or five hundred Copies of the Constitution and By-laws of the Institute, he would move that they be placed in the hands of the Committee for distribution as mentioned by Mr. Roach. The motion was carried.

On motion the Institute adjourned to the first Friday in the Coming month, May 1st

W. T. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Saturday evening April 4th 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, and on calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names. Viz Messrs Davis, McKibbin, Street Taylor, and Van Pelt.

Absent at the time of calling the roll, Messrs Banks and Cook, but in a short time after appeared, and having rendered satisfactory excuses for want of promptness on the present occasion, had their fines remitted on motion of Mr. Van Pelt.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The subject of the fair having been made the special order for this evening, the question was spoken to by all the Directors and the Corresponding Secretary.

Mr. McKibbin and the President for absence from the meeting of the Board on the 28th of March were each fined one dollar.

Mr. Van Pelt moved the appointment of a Committee to consist of the whole Board, whose duty it should be to take into consideration the subject of the fair, prepare a programme and report at the next meeting. After several motions to make the Committee consist of three and five members—it finally resulted in making it consist of the Directory and Corresponding Secretary.

The Board having adjourned to the regular meeting April 11th the Committee immediately organized by calling Mr. Sime to chair, and proceeded with the discussion of the several measures necessary to give success to the proposed exhibition and make it attractive. In the progress of the discussion Mr. Sime was excused, and Mr. Van Pelt was chosen chairman. Mr. Banks offered the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the condition of the Mechanical business in California, and the ability and inclination of our Mechanics are such as to warrant us in believing that the proposed fair can be made not only profitable, but highly creditable to the Institute, therefore we will henceforth "know no such word as fail"

Resolved, That we deem it inexpedient to unite, in the coming fair, with any other organization, but will do all in our power to secure the individual co-operation of the Horticulturists, agriculturists, and all other classes of producers.

The Committee continued the consideration of the subject, and adjourned to Tuesday evening next at the usual hour.

P B Dexter Sec.

Saturday evening April 11th 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and the following Directors viz Messrs Banks, Cook and Van Pelt.

Absent Messrs Davis, McKibbin, Street and Taylor.

There not being a quorum present by request the President ordered a meeting to be called for Tuesday evening next, the 14th Inst. at the usual hour.

P B Dexter Sec.

Tuesday evening April 14th 1857

The Board met pursuant to a call of the President.

On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz Messrs. Banks, Cook McKibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Mr. J. E. Davis.

The President stated the object of the

meeting of the Board was to hear the report of the Committee on the proposed fair.

Whereupon Mr. Van Pelt chairman of said Committee was about to read Drafts of a Circular which had been prepared by two members of the Same, and which he represented had not been acted upon in Committee, when the President ruled that the Board Could only hear such report as was authorized by the Committee of which Mr. Van Pelt was Chairman, and suggested that the Directors Could move a recess, and then immediately organize as a Committee and act upon the papers ~~which~~ were about to be read.

Mr. Cook then moved a recess which motion was carried, and the Committee immediately organized by Calling Mr. Van Pelt to the Chair.

The President having again taken his seat and having Called the Board to order, Mr. Van Pelt reported that the Committee had had under advisement the subject which had been submitted to them, had made progress therein, and asked leave to set again.

On motion of Mr. Street the Board adjourned to Saturday evening next, the 18th Inst. at the usual hour.

(J. W. Dwyer) Sec.

Saturday evening April 18th 1857.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the Vice President, the Corresponding Secretary, and on Calling the Roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz Mesp. Banks, Cook and Mr. Kibbin. There not being a quorum present the meeting adjourned.

Hall of the Institute.
Saturday April 25th 1857.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President and Corresponding Secretary and on Calling the Roll the following Directors answered to their names viz Mesprs. Banks, Cook, Davis, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Mr. McKibbin. The minutes were read and approved.

This being a Stated meeting of the Board reports from the Standing Committees were Called for Whereupon Mr. Van Pelt ~~from the~~ Committee of Ways and means and Accounts laid before the Directory the monthly report of the Librarian, showing the total Collections from All sources, for the month of April to be $175. Mr. Van Pelt also laid before them the following bills which the Committee had examined, found to be Correct and recommended that they be paid. viz

Mesp. Jones Wood and Sutherland.	
2 Gilt Frames. B. Franklin & J. A. McDougall	$8.50
Gas Company for Gas for March	4.00
Librarian for Salary for April, 42 Candles	50.75
Whitton & Towne for 500. Circulars	3.50

On motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the same.

Committee on Library Reading Room and Building made no report.

Committee on Books and Donations through Mr. Taylor reported, that the following Books had been donated to the Library since the last meeting by the Hon. J. W. Dwyer.

2 Vols. Congressional Globe 1855–6
1 " Commercial Relations of the U. S.

On motion the above were accepted and the thanks of the Board voted to the donor.

Mr. Van Pelt from the Special Committee on fair stated that the Committee had drafted a Circular announcing the time and place of holding the

the first annual fair of the Mechanics Institute of the City of San Francisco, and a series of Rules by which the same should be governed, which he begged leave to lay before the Board.

The Circular and rules having been read, by Mr. H. P. Williams, on motion of Mr. Street the Circular was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Taylor the rules were then read and acted upon Seriatim, when after some amendments, and the rejection of the 13th they were adopted.

The President called up the Resolutions of Mr Fisk, which had been offered at the last meeting of Institute, and referred to the Board of Directors, and which, having been considered were, on motion of Mr. Cook referred to the Committee on Books and Donations. The special Committee appointed by the Board at its meeting of the 28th of the last month to search out a desirable location of a lot on which to build a Hall for the Institute, & ascertain upon what terms the same may be secured, reported progress.

On motion of Mr. Banks a Committee to engross and prepare for publication the Circular and Rules adopted by the Board, was appointed, consisting of Mess. Banks, Van Pelt and H. P. Williams.

The President on account of illness was excused, and Mr. Cook was called to the Chair.

Mr. Banks gave notice that at the next meeting of the Institute he should move that the Board of Directors be appointed an executive Committee to manage and conduct the coming fair with be empowered to add to their number ad libitum.

Mr. Banks stated that at the next meeting of the Board he should move for the appointment of an Agent or Superintendant to act under the direction of the Board.

On motion the Board adjourned to Saturday evening next, at the usual hour.

P. B. Dexter Sec.

Saturday Evening May 9th 1857

Present the following Directors. Mess. Cook Banks. Davis and Van Pelt.

Absent. Mess. McKibbin, Street and Taylor

Adjourned to next regular meeting. May the 9th

P. B. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Friday evening May 1st 1857.

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment.
Present the President and a quorum of members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The proceedings of the Board of Directors at their several meetings since the last session of the Institute were also read.

The President stated that the first business before the Institute would be the consideration of the subject of the proposed fair, and trusted that every member would give his views in reference to that matter. It was one of great interest to the Institute, and demanded a careful consideration. If in the opinion of the members it was thought desirable to proceed further, then the active, earnest cooperation of every one connected with the association would be indispensable to give it success.

He would not conceal from them that in his view a failure to make this exhibition successful, would result disastrously to the Institute, while on the other hand if it were made attractive it would prove a source of revenue, and reflect credit upon those who earnestly engaged in pushing it forward. The whole matter would be laid before the Institute and hoped to hear a general expression of opinion in relation to it.

Mr. H. F. Williams then read the Circular announcing the time and place of holding the first annual fair of the Mechanics Institute, and the Rules governing the same, both of which had been adopted by the Board of Directors, and ordered to be submitted to the consideration of the Institute.

On motion of Mr. Street they were both adopted, and the action of the Board approved by unanimous vote. Pending the motion to adopt Mr. Gallagher enquired whether the fair had been determined upon? The President replied that it had, first by the Institute itself at a former meeting, and by the Directory acting

under its instructions, and that the members of the Institute ought to bear a portion of the responsibility, and assist the Officers in pushing it forward. The members must now determine whether any thing further should be done in the matter. To another enquiry how any loss was to be met, supposing the fair should fail to pay expenses? the President replied, by the members of the Institute.

The subject was discussed by Messr. Bishop, S. H. Williams, Elliot and Banks.

It was mentioned that the California Steam Navigation Company and Mail Steamship Company would convey, free of charge, any articles intended for the exhibition and fair.

Mr. Banks offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the Officers of the Mechanics Institute, constitute an executive committee for the management of all matters pertaining to the proposed fair, and that they be empowered to add to their number indefinitely.

Mr. Elliot moved the several Editors in chief of the papers published in this State be elected honorary members of the Institute. Mr. H. F. Williams amended by moving the appointment of a committee consisting of three members whose duty it should be to ascertain the names of the Editors throughout the State and report, at the earliest moment. The President appointed the following viz Messr. H. F. Williams, Elliot and Banks.

Mr. Gallagher spoke of the petition authorized by the Institute at the last meeting, stating that he had obtained about a hundred and twenty names thereto, and would like to hear from other members of the committee. After some conversation among members it was deemed advisable to proceed with the petition and that each member should get all signers to it he could

The Committee handed in the following names of Editors and publishers of Newspapers in the State, who were ballotted for and elected. J. Anthony Sacramento

D. MacDellish	San Francisco.	J. E. Lawrence	San Francisco.	D. B. Murdock	San Jose
D. S. King	"	J. H. Brayton	"	T. George	"
D. Soule	"	W. W. Kurtz	"	Louis McCull	Marysville
J. Nugent	"	A. Gandonnier	"	J. D. Damon	Alameda County
D. Bonnard	"	C. M. Chase	"	H. A. Appleton	Sacramento
W. Weeks	"	E. Derbec	"	B. B. Redding	"
James J. Ayers	"	W. Biven	"	J. D. Morse	"

J. Jackson Aptos San Diego

Mr. Fisk moved, and the motion prevailed, that the Board of Directors be requested to cause to be kept in one of the city papers having the largest circulation, a standing advertisement, setting forth the advantages and terms of membership in the Institute, provided the cost should not exceed ten Dollars per quarter.

Mr. Roach moved that each member pay five dollars, to be held as a fund for the payment of any loss which may accrue from the coming fair. The motion was lost

Mr. Van Pelt was called to the chair and and presided until adjournment.

Mr. Cook moved that when the Institute adjourn, it shall adjourn to Wednesday evening at 8 O'clock.

On motion the Institute adjourned

P. Buxton Sec.

Wednesday Evening May 6th 1857

The Institute met pursuant to Adjournment.

Present the President. and several members, but not a number sufficient to constitute a quorum, and the meeting was adjourned to the first Friday in June.

P. Buxton Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Saturday May 9th 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, and Corresponding Secretary, and on calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names, Messrs. Banks, Davis, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Messrs. Cook and McKibbin.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from the standing Committees were called for, when no report having been received from the Committee of Ways and Means, and Library Reading Room and Building, Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations reported as having been received from Hon. J. W. Denver the following Public Documents.—

Patent Office Reports for 1855–6	4 vols
Medical Statistics of U. S. Army	1 "
Smithsonian Institute Reports for 1855	1 "

From A. Macpherson

An eight Day Clock

From S. Bellett,

Specimen of Chalk from his Ranch in Napa County

Specimen of Conglomerate from same place.

" of Fire proof Stone " "

" Vitrified Stone " "

From Mr. J. C. Root.

5 Charts (Nautical)

On motion the above were received and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

Mr. Taylor also stated that the Committee to whom had been referred the resolutions of Mr. Fisk, offered at the Meeting of the Institute on the 5th of April, had had the same under advisement and had thought the plan therein proposed to increase the number

of Volumes in the Library, was not practicable, and recommended that they lie upon the table.

The recommendation of the Committee was adopted

Mr. Banks from Special Committee to engross and prepare for printing the Circular and Rules adopted at the last meeting of the Board, stated that Mess. Whitton and Towne had offered to print five Thousand Copies of Circular and Rules for fifty Dollars, to be paid from the proceeds of the fair.

The Circular was again read, when on the suggestion of the President, it was moved by Mr. Taylor and carried that the name P. B. Dexter be stricken out, and H. B. Williams inserted.

Mr. Van Pelt moved that the Committee on engrossing and publishing the Circular be authorized to add an additional section to the rules proposing a Catalogue, After much discussion and various amendments, the Circular and Rules were referred back to the publishing Committee, with authority to act.

The President from the Special Committee on Lot for a Hall, reported progress.

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, stated that the Committee had been instructed to accede to the terms proposed by Mr. Butler to Lithograph the plan for a Hall, that on examination of some of Mr. Butler's Lithographing, the Committee had thought Mr. B. not Competent as an Artist to do the work as well as could be desired, and asked that the Committee be relieved from the instruction of the Board at its meeting of March 28th

On motion of Mr. Banks the instructions above referred to were rescinded.

On motion of Mr. Taylor the Committee were instructed to investigate the matter of lithographing further and report at the next meeting

Mr. Street stated further that the plan was not yet ready for the lithographer, but that Considerable

progress had been made in it. Since the last meeting of the Board the Book Case had been finished and the Committee recommended that it be received. The recommendation was adopted.

Mr. Banks moved that a Committee on printing be appointed, that the President be made Chairman of such Committee and that he have the authority to select ~~for~~ the members to Constitute the same from among the members of the Institute.

Mr. Street moved that a special Committee be appointed to ascertain what Committees would probably be necessary to carry out the design of the proposed fair.

Mr. Taylor moved an Amendment that the President and two Secretaries be a Committee to select persons proper to be added to the Executive Committee, as proposed at the late meeting of the Institute, which ~~was~~ motion prevailed

Adjourned to the next regular meeting, Saturday evening - May 23rd at 8 O'Clock

P. B. Dexter. Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Saturday evening May 23rd 1857.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the Vice President and Corresponding Secretary, and on Calling the roll following, the following answered to their names, viz, Messrs. Banks, Davis McKibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent, the President and Mr. Cook.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees were called for.

Mr. McKibbin from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, laid before the Board the monthly report of the Librarian showing the Amt. collected from all sources during the month of May, to be $ 189.50/00. He also laid before the Board the following Bills which had been examined, were found to be correct, and recommended that they be paid.

Gas Company's Bill for Gas for April,	$ 8.00
Librarian's Bill for Services &c	57,25

On motion it was voted that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the Amount.

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, stated that the Committee had investigated farther the matter of lithographing the plan for a Hall, and were unanimously of the opinion that from the specimens of work done by Mr. Butler, ~~that~~ which had been exhibited to them it would be unsafe to entrust to him the execution of the plan. Mr. Butler had proposed to furnish 100 Copies to the Committee for $ 250 one half payable in the Stock of the Institute, and the balance in Cash. But distrusting his ability to make a good job of it, the Committee thought it would be better to contract with other parties of undoubted artistic Skill, and pay a hundred Dollars more and receive a Lithograph of the Hall the Institute would not be ashamed of.

Mr. Kuchel would furnish the same number of Copies, done in his best style for $ 350. payable one half in Stock, and the Balance in Cash.

The Committee had been shown many lithographs executed by Mr. Kuchel, which left no doubt on their minds of his ability to do the work proposed in a neat and handsome manner.

On motion of Mr. McKibbin, the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building were authorized to contract with (Mr. Kuchel) for the lithographing of a plan for the Hall, and that they be clothed with authority to do all things necessary to insure its early Completion.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, stated that there had been presented to the Cabinet a bundle of hide lashings taken from the mission Church of San Buena Ventura, and though these lashings had been first used more than 44 years ago, yet they appeared as fresh as when they were attached to the Building.

The following Communication would explain the circumstances connected with their removal from the Church and presentation to the Institute.

"This bundle of hide lashings was taken from the ruins of the roof of the Church of San Buena Ventura, destroyed by the great earthquake on the morning of the 9th of January 1857. It banded a queen post and purlin in the framed roof. Its perfect state of (preservation) sound nes attracted my attention, and being informed by Don. Bernardo Rico, a respectable inhabitant of San Buenaventura that the Church had been erected forty four (44) years ago, I was induced to cut it off from the wreck and carry it away. The duration of that earthquake was nearly two minutes, during which time the Cupola of the Church swayed to and fro fully five feet out of the perpendicular. The

bells rang. The inhabitants fled from their dwellings in terror amounting to a state of unconsciousness, the ground was ruptured for upwards of thirty miles in the direction of the Pejon pass, or Reservation, the River Santa Clara sank, and its waters disappeared in several places. The sea was much troubled.

This specimen of roof fixing used by the Padres, in the early days of Church Architecture, may be regarded worthy a place by your institution, among its collection of Antiquities — if so, you will please accept it.

I am your obedient Servant
John Morris, Civil Engineer.
January 1857 "

On motion the Bundle of hide lashings was accepted the thanks of the Board voted to the donor.

The subject of the Fair was called up and discussed by the members.

Mr. Van Pelt moved, and the motion prevailed that an Agent or Superintendant of the Coming Fair be appointed, to act under the direction of the Executive Committee. Mr. Cook came in and took his seat. After much discussion, it was determined by the Board that, the Rooms of the Institute should be kept open, during the day and evening, and that additional compensation should be given to the Secretary and Librarian, for services, that an Agent or Superintendant should be appointed whose duty it should in part be, to look up and solicit Articles proper to be placed on exhibition at the coming fair, and whose Salary or pay should be subsequently fixed by the Board, On motion, Mr. Dexter was appointed Agent or Superintendant, and authorized to select an Assistant.

Mr. McKibbin moved that the Rooms be kept open from 9 O'clock A. M. to 10 O'clock P. M. and to commence on Monday the 25th Instant.

Mr. McKibbin, informed the Board that

he had been in search of a suitable place in which to hold the fair, that he had seen the proprietors of the Metropolitan Market, on Market Street, and thought there might be some difficulty in securing it. He had also visited the Pacific Gardens, which in his opinion offered some advantages, as a place proper for the exhibition.

Mr. Taylor thought it would be necessary to appoint a Committee whose duty it should be to select an eligible site for the Fair, and moved that Mr. McKibbin be appointed Chairman of such Committee. The motion was carried.

Mr. Cook stated that the rooms would be more resorted to if the visitors could be furnished with certain literary papers, and moved that the Committee on Books and Donations be authorized to subscribe for several papers of a literary character, such as would satisfy the general reader. The motion prevailed.

Enquiry was made as to what action had been taken by the Committee on Printing toward securing the favorable notice by the City press, of the Fair and exhibition. The President who was made Chairman of that Committee, with power to select his assistants, not being present, no information could be given

The Board Adjourned to Saturday evening May 30th at 8. O'Clock.

P. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

San Francisco May 30th 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President, and Corresponding Secretary. On calling the roll the following Directors answered to their names. Viz. Mess. Banks, Davis, McKibbin Street, Taylor and Van Pelt. Absent Mr. Cook.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, amended and approved.

Reports from the Standing Committees of the Board were called for, whereupon Mr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, stated that Messrs. Kuchel & Dressel had agreed to furnish to the Institute 200 Copies of the lithograph of the Hall, the plan for which had been adopted, to be printed on a good quality of paper, 25 by 35 inches, and executed in their best style. They demanded for their work $350. one half to be paid in Cash, the balance to be paid in the Stock of the Institute. Mr. Street read a draft of a Contract with these parties, embodying the above facts. The report, on motion was received.

Mr. Van Pelt moved that the Contract be amended by inserting that the parties should not print more than 200 Copies, unless otherwise ordered, and that the Committee be empowered to close the Contract on the terms proposed. The motion was carried. Mr. Street further stated that the lithographing would be completed by the first of August.

Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts made no report.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, stated that the Committee had not yet determined upon the particular papers to be subscribed for, as instructed at the last meeting of the Board, and asked for further time, which was granted. He also laid before the Board the following Books,

which had been donated to the Institute.

From Hon. J. W. Denver

Report on the Coast Survey for 1855

From Mr. E. C. Hamblin.

Mahomet and his Successor by W. Irving 2. Vols.

On motion the Books were accepted, and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

The Recording Secretary stated that at the last meeting of the Board he had been appointed Superintendant of the Coming Fair, with the privilege of selecting an Assistant, and that he had been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. McKibbin, who had given his time for the past week to the duties imposed upon him. At the same meeting it had been made the duty of the Librarian to open the rooms daily, (Sundays excepted,) from 9 O'Clock A.M. to 10 O'Clock P.M. and consequently no time was left him to attend to his duties of Superintendant, he therefore respectfully tendered his resignation.

On motion the resignation was accepted.

On motion of Mr. Van Pelt Mr. McKibbin was unanimously appointed Superintendant.

The Corresponding Secretary from the Special Committee on printing made a Statement in reference to the terms offered by some of the City papers to publish the Circular and Rules to the time of opening of the Fair. The Committee had closed no contract with any of the publishers of the City press, believing it proper to lay the matter before the Board, and await instructions. In their conversations with publishers the Committee had stipulated that payment should be made from the proceeds of the Fair. The Chronicle & Herald had proposed to publish till time of exhibition with frequent editorial notices on terms which the Committee thought favorable to the Institute. The report was received.

On motion of Mr. Van Pelt, the Committee were authorized to close with the Chronicle & Herald and make

such terms with other papers as they may deem proper. Mr McKibbin amended by clothing the Committee with full power to act in the matter.

Mr. McKibbin from Special Committee on Selecting a Suitable site on which to hold the fair, stated that he had seen the parties at present occupying the Metropolitan Market, from whom he had learned that it could not be had for terms that the Institute ought to pay, if it could be had at all. The Committee was making further search.

Mr. Van Pelt called the attention of the Board to the fact that the lease of the present Hall had expired, and suggested the propriety of renewing it, and if possible on terms a little more favorable to the Institute. The matter was referred to the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building.

Mr. McKibbin stated that he had found the Mechanics and Manufacturers, Importers and Dealers very generally favorable to the Fair and thought that many of them would Contribute something for exhibition. Mr. Cook came in.

Mr. Banks' motion to make the Corresponding Secretary a Committee to distribute the Circulars, was amended so as to make the Committee Consist of three. The President appointed on that Committee. The Corresponding Secretary, the Vice President and Banks.

Mr. Banks moved that the Officers of the Mechanics Institute of Los Angelos, of the Horticultural Society and of the State Agricultural Society be invited to be present at the Fair as guests of the Institute.

Mr. Street stated that he had been informed by Dr. Trask that he very frequently received Specimens of various Kinds, which he would cheerfully transfer to the Institute, and in that event a case for a Cabinet should at once be ordered.

On Motion the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building were authorized to

contract for Case for a Cabinet, and pay in the stock of the Institute.

Cor. Sec. Mr. Wheeler of the Horticultural Society had signified the readiness of that Society to cooperate with the Institute in September, and would furnish a list of the members.

The Board adjourned to Saturday evening June 6th at 8 O'Clock.

P. T. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday Evening June 5th 1857

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the Officers and a quorum of members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The proceedings of the Board of Directors were also read.

The monthly report of the Treasurer showing the amount of funds in Treasury, was ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

San Francisco June 4th 1857

Mechanics Institute in account with J. E. Kincaid, Treasurer

Receipts

April 25	From P. B. Dexter Sec. Cash	$164.50
June 4	To cash from P. B. Dexter Secretary	128.75
	Balance last report	180.17
		$473.42

Disbursements

April	By cash Paid P. B. Dexter Salary	$50.75	
	" " " Gas Company	4.00	
	" " " Jones Wood and Sutherland	8.50	
June	" " " Gas Company	8.00	
	" " " P. B. Dexter, Salary for May	51.25	
	" " " Whitton Towne & Co's bill	3.50	126.00
	Balance in Treasury		$347.42

Respectfully Submitted

J. E. Kincaid, Treasurer.

The President stated that as the time approached for holding the fair, the more he was convinced it would require the united cooperation and untiring energy of the members of the Institute to prevent a failure. And he would not conceal from them, that in his opinion, should the Exhibition, through the lukewarmness and indifference of the members fail in its attractive features, it would be ruinous to the Institute and disgraceful to the membership. In older States where Fairs had been held, and which were made remunerative, they possessed many

advantages over us, the Citizens of a young state, with resources but partially developed, and in some measure a transient population. The entire of expense, which, from a cursory estimate he had made, it would be necessary to incur by the Institute, he would put it at about $4000 up to the time of opening the doors for the Exhibition. The President said he made these remarks not for the purpose of discouraging, but to stimulate the members to energetic action, as in this way only could they hope for that success which they all so much desired, and which was essential to the future prosperity of the Institute.

Mr. McKibbin Chairman of the Committee on Selecting a proper site for the Fair, said that the terms offered by occupants of the Metropolitan Market were such as ought to deter the Institute from acceding to. They in the first place demanded a bonus of $1000, and then would impose the labor and expense of taking down and removing their stalls, and other fixtures, and at the close of the Fair requiring all to be replaced. He had seen the proprietors of the Pacific Gardens, from whom he had learned that no rent would be charged for its use by the Institute. The present occupants had signified their readiness to place the grounds and buildings at the disposal of the Executive Committee coupled with some conditions which were not named. Mr. Lick had placed the vacant lot on Montgomery and Sutter Street at the disposal of the Institute. For his part he was encouraged to proceed, and should know no such word as fail.

The President thought it would require from 60 to 75 M. feet of Lumber to put up the necessary buildings on the lots offered by Mr. Lick.

Mr. Fisk referred to Section 4 Article 9 of the Constitution on Appropriations. This gave rise to a discussion in which the President, (the Vice President having been called to Chair) Messrs Taylor, McKibbin, Street, Purkitt, H. F. Williams, Fisk, Van Pelt and Bancroft participated,

Mr. McKibbin again called the attention of members to the Pacific Gardens as a suitable site for the Fair, and mentioned the several Buildings on the grounds, which he thought might be ample for the purposes of the Exhibition, and no great expense need thereby be incurred by the Institute.

On motion of Mr. Purkitt the Committee on selecting Site was enlarged to 9. The President appointed the following in addition to the present Committee, viz, Messrs Purkitt, Boston, Cofran, Cook, Fisk and Atkinson.

The Chairman of the Committee then requested the members to meet at the Hall on Monday at 3 O'Clock, in order to proceed to the Pacific Gardens, and ascertain what advantages it may offer as a suitable place for the Exhibition.

On motion it was ordered that when the Institute adjourns, it shall adjourn to meet on this night week at the usual hour, at which time the report of the above Com. could be heard. Mr. Roeschert called up the subject of the petition to the Board of Supervisors, authorized by the Institute at a late meeting. It appeared that quite a large number of names had been obtained to the petition, by several members.

On motion of Mr. Roach it was ordered that Mr. Gallagher chairman of the special Committee on Petition be requested to present the same to the Board of Supervisors.

The President invited the members present to come forward and sign their names, as thereby showing their willingness to co-operate with the Executive Committee in their labor in preparing for the Exhibition.

Mr. H. P. Williams said that he had been placed on a Committee to ascertain the names of Editors and Publishers of the Press throughout the State, and report the same to the Institute, in order to elect them honorary members. From the State Register lately published he had learned all the names of the Publishers, and had been promised the names of all the Editors, which the Committee would be able to hand in at the next meeting of the Institute.

Mr. Roach spoke of the great convenience it would be to the members of the Institute in requesting others to join, to have a Card setting forth the terms of membership &c and moved that the Board of Directors be instructed to have printed such number as they might deem proper, and have them placed in the hands of members. The motion prevailed.

Mr. H. P. Williams, called the attention of members to the fact that the terms of Life Membership, had been reduced to only fifty Dollars, and moved that a Committee of three be appointed to solicit for Life Members.

The motion which finally prevailed was, that Mr. H. P. Williams should be made Chairman of said Committee, with authority to add 4 others.

Mr. Roach informed the Institute that a tender of a Steam Engine for the uses of the fair, had been made by Mr. P. Donohue, when on motion, the thanks of the Institute was voted to that gentleman for his proposed liberality.

On motion the Institute adjourned.

J. P. Deyle, Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Saturday Evening June 6th 1857.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, Vice President and Corresponding Secretary, and on calling the Roll the following Directors answered to their names viz Mess. Banks, McKibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt.

Absent Messrs Cook and Davis.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, amended and approved.

Reports from Standing Committees were called for,

Whereupon Mr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, stated that the Com. had seen Messrs Kuchel & Dressel on the subject of the lithograph of the plan for a Hall, and had been informed by them that only the number of copies ordered by Board would be struck off. That if a greater number than 200. be required they would be charged for at the rate of $75 per 100 copies. That they would keep the impression on the stone for six months or more.

In reference to the subject of the lease they asked further time, which was granted.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations reported that there had been presented to the Library and Cabinet the following—

By Mr. A. D. Warner
Christmas Holidays in Rome
by Rev. W. I. Kip

By Mr. J. Wolover
A singular Sand stone from Hills near on on Market Street.

On motion, the above were accepted and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

The President called the attention of the Board to business referred to it by the Institute.

The motion made by Mr. Roach that the

Board be instructed to get printed Cards, on which should be set forth the terms &c. of membership in the Institute, was taken up and discussed, and on motion of Mr. Street it was ordered that 1000 be printed, and for form, it was referred to the Committee on Books and Donations, with the Secretary added.

Mr. A. F. Williams from the special Committee on Printing reported that the Committee had contracted with 4 papers of the City to publish the Circular announcing the Fair, together with the rules adopted for its government, that the Committee had overlooked the "Morning Call," and as they had incurred a liability of near $400 it was deemed advisable to ask instructions from the Board.

On motion of Mr. Street the Com. were instructed to give to the Morning Call the publishing of the Circular. &c.

The Committee had not yet authorized the papers of Sacramento, Marysville, and Stockton to publish. They were unwilling to contract heavy liabilities for printing.

Messrs. Van Pelt and McKibbin both spoke of the importance of giving extended notice of the Exhibition through the papers of this State and Oregon.

On motion of Mr. Taylor the whole matter of Printing was left to the discretion of the Committee.

On suggestion of the President Mr. Banks moved that the Board do now resolve itself into an Executive Committee, which motion prevailed.

The President called the Vice President to the Chair, on motion of Mr. Van Pelt, the President and two Secretaries were appointed to their respective Offices in the Executive Committee.

A question arose in Committee as to the position and power of those who might be added thereto, in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the

Institute at its meeting of May 1st whereupon Mr. Banks moved the following – Resolved, That the members who may be selected by the Executive Committee to serve with them have the same power and Authority as the Original Committee, which was lost.

It was settled by the Executive Committee that as it became necessary to appoint Committees to attend to any specific matters relating to the Fair, a Chairman should be appointed from among the Officers, and he authorized to fill up his Committee from among those who may be selected as members of the Executive Committee.

Mr. Banks moved that Mr. McKibbin be appointed Chairman of the special Committee on Buildings and Grounds.

Mr. McKibbin then gave notice that he had selected as associate members of that Committee on site, the following Members. Messrs. Purkitt, Boston Palmer, Cofran, R. Fisk, and Atkinson.

Mr. A. F. Williams was appointed Chairman of the Committee on distribution of Circulars, and he announced as Colleagues on the same Messrs. Elliot and Banks.

The President, Mr. Sims, was appointed Chairman of the Committee on printing, and he selected as associate the Corresponding Secretary.

Mr. Banks moved that Mr. McKibbin be appointed Superintendant, and the motion was carried.

On motion the Executive Committee resolved itself into the Board of Directors, the Vice President presiding.

Mr McKibbin tendered his resignation as superintendant under the direction of the Board, which was accepted, and the thanks of the Board voted to him for his efficient performance of the duties imposed upon him.

Mr. Van Pelt suggested the propriety

of engaging the services of some distinguished Actor or Actress and Call for a benefit at one of our theatres, Mr. and Mrs. Starke were mentioned in this connection.

Mr. Street again spoke of valuable additions which might be made to the Cabinet by the contributions which had been tendered through Dr. Trask, and on his motion the Corresponding Secretary was instructed to address a Communication to the Doctor, in response to his tender, and solicit for the use of the Cabinet of the Institute, any duplicates he may have in his own.

The Board adjourned to Saturday evening next at the usual hour.

P. B. Deyte. Sec.

Hall of the Institute
Friday Evening June 12th 1857

The Institute met ~~in~~ pursuant to adjournment. Present a quorum of the members.

The President called the meeting to order, when the minutes having been read, were approved.

The President called for the report of the Committee on examination of Pacific Gardens as a site adapted to the purposes of a fair.

Whereupon Mr. McKibbin, Chairman of said Committee, reported, that the Committee had performed the duty assigned them, had visited and examined the grounds, had ascertained the terms on which the Institute could rent the same, and after a careful consideration of the matter the Committee were of the opinion that other and more eligible sites could be had at less cost. The proprietors of the Garden would demand a rent of $400. per month, & would require that a building be put up for them contiguous to the grounds, suitable for selling liquor, the cost of which, and the additions necessary to be made in order to adapt them to the purposes required, would call for an expenditure of not less than $1600. Under these considerations the Committee had instructed him to report adversely to the Pacific Gardens as the best site for holding the Exhibition and Fair.

The report was received

On motion the appointed members of the Committee were discharged.

Mess. Fisk, Van Pelt and Roach spoke of the dependance of the Executive Committee on the Board of Directors.

It was stated that Mr. James Lick had tendered to the Institute the gratuitous use of his lots bounded by Sutter, Montgomery and Post streets, for the purposes of the Fair, and a plan for the necessary building drawn by Mr. H. B. Williams, having been laid before the members for examination, the estimated expense

cost of which would not exceed $800. and the subject having been thoroughly discussed by Messrs. Perkitt, Roach Van Pelt and Boston,

On motion of Mr. Perkitt the Executive Committee were instructed to accept the liberal offer of Mr. Lick, and at an early day to take measures for the erection of the necessary building on the lots named.

Mr. Elliott from the special Committee appointed at the meeting in May to ascertain and report the names of Editors of the Press in California, in order to their election as honorary members of the Institute, presented the following additional names, viz.

C. Springer	Amador Co.	John Mitchell	Placer	W. J. Mayfield	Siskiyou
O. D. Aveline	"	T. Parker	"	J. Tyson	"
C. G. Lincoln	Butte Co.	I. P. Olmstead	"	C. A. Bellers	Solano
G. H. Crossette	"	H. Hawkins	"	H. T. Weston	Sonoma
G. Armor	Calaveras Co.	Thomas Lovejoy	Plumas	M. Curtis	Trinity
W. Hervey	Eldorado Co.	J. Heiss	San Francisco	J. J. Cooney	"
H. T. Smith	"	E. P. Hutchings	"	W. Oliver	Tuolumne
B. Gelwicks	"	H. C. Patrick	Stockton	R. J. Steele	"
I. Van Dyke	Humboldt Co.	O. Fisher	"	H. Sullivan	"
N. Pomeroy	Los Angelos	L. Reefe	Santa Barbara	A. N. Francisco	"
H. Hamilton	Do	J. McElroy	Santa Cruz	L. Laird	Yuba
L. A. Holmes	Mariposa	B. Skillman	Shasta	O. O. Ball	"
A. J. Cox	Napa	J. C. Hinckly	"	L. Ranson	"
J. I. Rolfe	Nevada	H. Hickok	Sierra	E. Thomas	San Francisco
N. P. Brown	"	J. Platt	"	Julius Korn	"
W. B. Ewer	"	L. Meyers	"		

And moved that a ballot be had on all, which motion prevailing, and the President being requested to cast the Ballot, they were all duly elected honorary members of the Institute.

The Cards, setting forth the easy terms of Membership in the Institute, ordered by the Board of Directors in pursuance of a resolution offered by Mr. Roach were laid before the meeting.

Mr. Fisk spoke of the action of a Committee of the Board of Directors on his resolutions in reference

to the purchase of Books for the Library, through W. T. Coleman Esq.r now in Newyork, offered at the meeting of the Institute in April and objected to the term impracticable, as used by the Committee, and urged that his proposition deserved the consideration of the Institute.

On motion of Mr. Sime, (the Vice President in the Chair,) Mr. Fisk was authorized to correspond with Mr. Coleman in reference to the purchase of books as contemplated in his resolutions.

Mr. Purkitt informed the Institute, that, on application to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company he did not doubt that they would carry packages of books from Newyork free of charge.

Mr. Van Pelt suggested the propriety of procuring a suitable blank book for voluntary subscriptions for the purchase of books, and various other objects.

Mr. Roach urged the importance of keeping a register of the names of those members who had made contributions to the Institute, as also to record the names, occupations, and other circumstances, of the members of the Institute, as far as known, to be used as a book of reference.

These suggestions having been spoken to by Messrs Purkitt and Van Pelt. On motion of Mr. Sime the subject was referred to a Committee of three consisting of Messrs Roach, Purkitt and Van Pelt, to report at the next meeting.

Mr. Sime mentioned that an intention had been expressed by some of the members, to put up boxes in the Hall, to receive Orders, estimates, and other communications, spoke of it as an excellent arrangement, and moved that the subject be referred to the same Special Committee, which was so referred.

On motion the Institute adjourned.

A. B. Dexter, Sec.

Hall of the Institute.
Saturday Evening June 13th 1857.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the President, and on calling the Roll the following Directors answered to their names, viz Messrs Banks, Davis, McKibbin, Street and Van Pelt.

Absent Messrs Cook and Taylor

The minutes of the last meeting were read, amended and approved

Reports from standing Committees were called for, whereupon Mr. McKibbin from the Committee on Ways and Means and Accounts, stated that the Committee were not prepared to report at present, and asked for further time which was granted.

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building stated that the Committee had waited on Mr. Polhamus, and had asked a reduction in the rent of the rooms now occupied by the Institute, and had been told that the application should be taken under advisement. The Committee asked for further time, which was granted.

Mr. Van Pelt from the Committee on Books and Donations, to whom the subject of a Card had been referred, stated that the Committee disclaimed having had any agency in having it printed in its present form. It did not meet his approval.

On motion of Mr McKibbin the Card, setting forth the terms of Membership in the Institute, was adopted.

Mr. Banks from the same Committee to whom had been referred the matter of selecting for the Reading Room suitable periodicals, and subscribing for the same reported, ~~reported~~ that the Committee had agreed upon a small number, which would be increased at an early day, and offered the following, which on motion of Mr. Street were approved, & the Committee instructed to subscribe for. "Harpers Monthly Magazine." "Hunts Merchants Magazine" "Knickerbocker Magazine." "Scientific American", and

Board of Trustees Minutes, 11 December 1854 – 22 July 1857. VOLUME I. Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco.

"Journal of the Franklin Institute."

The following Bills were presented and recommended to be paid.

C. F. Robbins Bill for Printing 1000 cards	$6.50
Gas Company's Bill for Gas for May	4.50
B. F. Sterrett's Bill for Printing 100 Blank receipts	8.00

On motion it was voted that an Order be drawn on the Treasurer for the Amount.

Mr. McKibbin moved that the Secretary furnish a Statement of the names of the Shareholders of the Institute, the number of Shares of Stock taken by each, the number of installments which have been paid thereon together with the names of those who have forfeited the same to the Institute, by reason of their non-payment of dues for Six months or more. The motion was carried.

Mr. Van Pelt spoke of the propriety of having a benefit at one of our theaters, for the purpose of replenishing the treasury. And also of engaging the services of some Competent gentleman to give a lecture before and for the benefit of the Institute.

Mr. McKibbin moved that the subject of a lecture be referred to the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, to report at the next meeting of the Board. Carried.

The President gave notice that he should call the Executive Committee together on Monday evening at 8 O'clock.

On motion the Board adjourned to Saturday Evening, the 20th Inst.

P Weyler Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Monday Evening June 15th 1857.

The Executive Committee met on a call of the President.

The following members were present. Viz: Messrs The President. Messrs Elliot. Van Pelt, Street, McKibbin, Banks, Rincaid, and Dexter.

Absent Messrs Cook, Davis, Taylor and Williams.

The minutes of the former meeting of the Committee were read amended and approved.

Mr. Street moved that the words building and ground, be stricken out of the paragraph wherein they occur in the proceedings of the former meeting of the Executive Committee, and insert site, which was so ordered.

Mr. Street moved that the Committee on site be discharged, which was carried.

The President called the attention of the Committee to the tender made to the Institute by Mr. Lick of the use his vacant lots on Montgomery, between Post and Sutter streets, and spoke of the necessity of going early to work and maturing the plan for a building. A large liability must be incurred in purchasing the necessary materials, and to this end a Finance Committee should be created, to superintend the purchases, and receive and disburse the funds accruing from the Fair.

Mr. McKibbin Chairman of the Committee on Building and grounds named the following, as constituting that Committee Viz. Messrs. Sime, Williams Elliott, Banks, Street and R. Fish.

Mr. Elliot moved that each member of the Executive Committee bring in plans and suggestions for putting up the necessary buildings for the purposes of the Fair, together with estimate of probable Cost, which was carried.

Mr. McKibbin moved that a Finance Committee be created and that Mr. Sime be Chairman of the same, which motion having been carried, the Chairman named the following persons as Constituting said Com.

mittee, viz. Mess. Elliott, Davis, Street, Kincaid and Van Pelt.

It was settled in Committee that the several sub Committees appointed, should report to the Executive Committee, as often as practicable, any business such sub committee may have entrusted to them.

Mr. McKibbin stated that the Committee on building and grounds, had made enquiry of certain lumber dealers the cost per M of the lumber required for the contemplated building for fair, and learned it might be had for about $25. per M.

The several members of the Executive Committee, expressed their belief in the entire success of this present enterprize, and evinced a determined purpose to push it forward.

The Committee adjourned to Saturday Evening next.

P. Weyler Sec.

Saturday Evening June 20th 1857

The Board met, Present the President and Vice President, and on calling the roll the following answered to their names, viz. Mess. Banks, Davis, Street and Van Pelt. Absent Mess. Cook, McKibbin, and Taylor. There being no quorum the meeting adjourned.

P. Weyler Sec.

The Executive Committee met and adjourned without transacting any important business. Absent from Committee Mess. Cook, Kincaid, McKibbin, Taylor and H. B. Williams. Adjourned to Monday evening, 22nd Inst. at 8 O'clock.

P. Weyler Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Monday Evening June 22nd 1857

The Executive Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present the following members Mess. Banks, Davis, Dexter, McKibbin, Sime, Street, Elliott, Van Pelt & H. B. Williams. Absent Mess. Cook, Kincaid and Taylor.

The minutes of the meeting of the 15th were read and approved.

The President stated that the first business in order would be the examination of the several Plans of a building for the Fair, and selecting therefrom one, which in the opinion the Committee, would seem to unite most advantages.

The merits of the several Plans before the Committee were discussed by the members, when on motion of Mr. McKibbin the Plan submitted by Mr. H. B. Williams was adopted.

It was understood that the Committee on building and grounds, would be governed by the general out line of the plan adopted, and much of the internal arrangement would be left to their discretion.

On the suggestion of Mr. Elliott as to the propriety of laying a portion of the floor with tongued and grooved lumber, a conversation was had as to its expediency, and probable additional cost over rough lumber, when on motion of Mr. Banks, the Committee on Building and Grounds were instructed to cover the whole with tongued and grooved lumber.

On the enquiry of Mr. Elliott as to the time when the work on building should commence, it was understood that, arrangements should be made soon after the 4th of July to get lumber on the ground, and the stone now on the lot removed.

Mr. McKibbin would like to commence the work next week, by employing some men to remove the stone, and to this end funds would be required. Mess. Sime, Banks, Van Pelt, Williams, Street and Davis, volunteered each to advance for that purpose $50.

Mr. Williams enquired if the Stock of the Institute could be given for labor? The President answered that under the Constitution it could not.

Mr. McKibbin tendered his resignation as outside agent.

On motion of Mr. Street the resignation was accepted.

On motion of Mr. Banks Mr. Williams was appointed outside Agent of the Fair.

Adjourned to Saturday evening next the 27th Inst.

P. H. Dexter, Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Saturday Evening June 27th 1857

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present the President, Vice President and Corresponding Secretary, and on Calling the following Directors answered to their names, viz – Mess. Banks, Davis, McKibbin, Street and Van Pelt. Absent Messrs. Cook and Taylor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from the Standing Committees of the Board were called for, whereupon Mr. McKibbin from the Committee of Ways and means and Accounts laid before the Board the report (monthly) of the Librarian, exhibiting the following as the amount Collected from all sources –

On account of Quarterly dues	$72.00
" " Stock	62.50
" Rent of Room No. 5. for May	20.00
Received from Pacific Congress	12.50
Total Receipts.	$167.00

Disbursed.

Paid Librarian's Salary for June	$50.00
" E. B. Robbins Bill for Cards	6.50
" B. B. Sterrett's " Blank Receipts	8.00
" Gas Bill for May	4.50
" J. Lick for Rent of Lots for Fair	1.00
" 4to Candles	1.50
" Water and Matches	.75
" Mucilage and Blank Book	1.25
" Commissions – (Kennedy)	3.00
" To pay over to Treasurer	90.50 $167.00

The Committee laid before the Board the Bill of the Librarian for Services &c for the Month of June and recommended that it be paid.

On motion it was ordered that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the Amt. of Bill $54.50

The Committee on Library Reading Room and

Building, through Mr. Street, reported that Mr. Polhemus had consented to reduce the Rent to the Institute to $60 per Month. The Committee further reported that Mr. Clark had not completed the perspective of the plan for the Hall of the Mechanics Institute, and consequently the Committee had been unable to place it in the hands of the Lithographers. Mr. Clark gave as a reason for his tardiness in preparing the perspective, that all his time was necessarily devoted to such other labor as would enable him to provide for the wants of his family. The Committee learned that it would cost about $20. to complete the perspective.

The Report was received.

The Committee on Books and Donations made no report.

The Report of the Secretary made in accordance with the Resolution of Mr. McKibbin, adopted at the Meeting of the Board on the 13th of the present month, instructing that Officer to furnish a Statement of the names of the Shareholders of the Institute, the number of shares of stock taken by each, the number of installments which have been paid thereon, together with the names of those who have forfeited the same to the Institute, by reason of their non-payment of dues for six months or more, was laid before the Board, and was on motion referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The President stated that it would be in order to consider the matter of the plan for the Hall.

A discussion hereupon arose as to the conditions imposed on Mr. Clarke on the adoption of his plan, and the best means to ensure its speedy completion. It was urged by Mr. Van Pelt, that one of the conditions of the adoption of Mr. Clark's plan was, that a perspective drawing of the same should be furnished at an early day for the lithographer. He was opposed therefore to make any appropriation for this purpose.

The matter was discussed by Messrs. Street, Elliot, Williams and McKibbin, when on motion of the latter the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building were authorized to arrange for the (speedy) completion of the perspective, within two days by advancing a sum not exceeding $20. to be replaced from the proceeds of the sale of Copies of the Plan for the Hall, and place the said perspective (within the time specified ~~at as early a day as possible~~) in the hands of Messrs. Shonk & Dressell the lithographers.

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building to which the subject of a lecture had been referred, stated that the Committee were of the opinion that a lecture, by a popular speaker, one who was not known as a politician, would prove beneficial to the Institute. The following gentlemen were named as able and competent, and doubtless willing to prepare an address to be given before and for the benefit of the Institute, any one of whom would draw a full house. The gentlemen named in this connection were Messrs Briggs, Cutter and Lacy. The Committee also suggested the propriety of engaging the services of the Harmonic Society, as likely to add to the attractiveness of the occasion and stated that their attendance could be had at an expense of about $25.

On motion of Mr McKibbin the report was received and the Committee instructed to arrange for the lecture as proposed, at as early a day as practicable.

Adjourned

W D Cutter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

The San Francisco June 27th 1857

The Executive Committee was called to order by the President. The following members were present, Messrs Sinn, Elliott, Williams, Banks, Cook, Davis McKibbin, Street, Van Pelt and Dexter.

Absent Messrs. Kincaid and Taylor.

Reports from Committees were called for. No reports were made by the Committees on Building and Grounds and on Finance.

Mr. Williams Superintendant of the Fair, or out door Agent of the Executive Committee, stated that in his peregrinations over the City he had taken notes of those incidents which he deemed of value to the Institute, and which he would read for the information of Members. If he had at any time doubted the triumphant success of the proposed Exhibition and Fair, the doubts had been entirely removed by the hearty assurances he had every where received of active Co-operation. In canvassing the City, he had thought it advisable to take a Certain Street, and visit every person and establishment on the same, that would in any way be likely to aid in the Fair.

Mr. Williams then read his memoranda, which were highly satisfactory, and showed conclusively that a more general interest was felt in the matter by all classes of our Citizens, than had been expected.

Mr. McKibbin, in view of the importance of having addresses made at the opening and closing of the Fair, moved that a Committee on addresses be Created and that Mr. Banks be appointed Chairman of the same. Carried

Mr. Williams moved that a Committee on Diplomas and Medals be Created and Mr. Van Pelt be Chairman thereof. Carried.

On motion of Mr. Elliott the Committee on Building and grounds was instructed to apply to the proper authority for permission to occupy a portion of the streets and

sidewalks adjoining the Building for the Exhibition and Fair, in order to keep off those parties who would be disposed to erect stands or booths.

Adjourned

P. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Friday Evening July 3rd 1857

The Institute met and was called to order by the President.

The minutes of the last regular meeting and of the adjourned meeting were read and approved.

The President laid before the members, the report of the Treasurer for the month of July, which having been read by the Secretary, was, on motion of Mr. Street received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Treasurer's Report.

Mechanics Institute

In Account with J. E. Kincaid

Cr

	By Balance on last Report	$347.92
July 2nd	" Cash from P. B. Dexter	164.00
		$511.92

Dr.

June	To Cash Paid C. B. Polhemus for Rent to July 1st	$225.00	
July 2nd	" " " P. B. Dexter Salary 1st for June	54.50	
	" " " C. F. Robbins for Printing	6.50	
	" " " B. F. Sterret, " "	8.00	
	" " " Gas Company	4.50	298.50
	Balance in Treasury		$213.42

San Francisco July 3rd 1857

J. E. Kincaid, Treasurer

Reports from Committees were called for, whereupon Mr. H. P. Williams from the Special Committee to whom was assigned the duty of Ascertaining the names of the Editors and publishers of the News paper Press of California, and reporting the same in order to their election as honorary members of the Institute, and to advise them that their election had been unanimous, stated that the Committee had performed the duty assigned them, and read several communications received by him as Corresponding Secretary.

Mr. McKibbin, Chairman of the Committee on Building and Grounds. Reported that on Monday the Committee would commence their labor by preparing the

grounds for the reception of lumber for the Building. The Committee wanted both money and labor. He did not doubt but much labor would be gratuitously given by Mechanics, not only Members of the Institute, but by others, if the proper representations were made to them.

Mr. Roach from the special Committee on Books of Registry for the Institute, Reported progress and asked for further time, which was granted.

At the request of members the proceedings of the Executive Committee, had since the last regular meeting of the Institute, were read.

Mr. Street moved that the memoranda kept by the Superintendant of Fair be read by him, to show the favorable feeling indicated towards this movement by all classes of the Community. Mr. Williams having a read a portion of his minutes, on motion of Mr. Sime, (the Vice President in the Chair,) the further reading was suspended.

Mr. Roach stated that he had met with great encouragement in his canvassing of certain portions of the City, and that he had furnished the Secretary with a number of names of those who would become members of the Institute. A little exertion on the part of members would secure to the Institute a large membership.

Mr. Fisk enquired if any thing had been done in reference to asking permission of the proper Authority to hold a Fair. On motion of Mr. Sime the subject was referred to the Executive Committee.

On the suggestion of Mr. Fisk as to the best manner of soliciting assistance in putting up the building for the Exhibition and Fair, a discussion was arose in which Messrs. Fisk, Street, McKibbin, Banks Sime, and S. H. Williams participated, when, on motion of Mr. McKibbin it was resolved that a special meeting of the Institute be called for Tuesday evening next at the usual hour, and that when the Institute adjourns, it shall adjourn to Tuesday evening next.

Mr. Street offered the following preamble and Resolutions.

Whereas, in pursuing the different branches of Mechanical labor in this City, there are frequent differences arising in settling accounts, not alone between the Contractor and owner, but between the Contractor and Sub-Contractor, which differences are usually settled by the slow, protracted and expensive system of litigation, which usually leaves all parties, (except judges and Lawyers,) poorer than when they commenced —

Now therefore Resolved, That the Mechanics Institute establish a Court of Reconciliation, the object of which shall be to settle all differences upon equitable principles, between parties wishing to avail themselves of its benefits. Said Court to consist of three judges who must be members of, and elected by the Mechanics Institute,

Resolved, that a Committee of three be appointed to draft Rules and Regulations by which said Court shall be governed, and report the same at the next regular meeting of the Institute.

On motion the above resolutions were adopted, & the following were appointed a Committee under the last resolution, viz: Messrs Street, H. P. Williams and Roach.

Mr. Dick offered the following resolution which was not adopted.

Resolved, That all Mechanics who are friendly to the Mechanics Fair, and are willing to assist in the erection of the Building for that purpose, are requested to meet at the Rooms of the Mechanics Institute, on Tuesday next, at 8 O'Clock. P. M.

On motion of Mr. Street a Committee of three was appointed to call upon the Mechanics of the City, and solicit their aid in putting up the Building for the Exhibition and Fair, and report at the next meeting. The Chair appointed the following as Constituting that Committee, Viz — Messrs Street, H. P. Williams, Roach, and Elliott.

The Institute adjourned.

P B Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Tuesday Evening July 7th 1857 —

The Institute met pursuant to adjournment to hear the Report of the special Committee appointed at the late meeting, to ~~hear the~~ report upon the Mechanics of the City, and solicit their aid in putting up the Building for the Exhibition and Fair.

Mr. Street from the above Committee stated that he had, with very little effort, succeeded in getting subscribed about 30 days work, and thought that a larger number of days work could be had, should the members of the Committee go to work earnestly, and visit the various shops of the City. The persons subscribing to give one or more days work on the list which he presented, were not members of the Institute.

Mr. Elliott said he had been prevented by other engagements from doing anything in the way of soliciting persons to subscribe days work

On motion of Mr. McKibbin the Report of the Committee was received, and the Committee Continued, instructing them to report to the Executive Committee.

The President urged upon the members present to come forward and subscribe for one or more days work to be applied to erecting the Building for the Fair and Exhibition. Labor thus volunteered would lessen the amount of debt necessarily to be incurred by the Executive Committee, for which they were personally liable.

Sixteen days work additional was subscribed,

On motion the Institute adjourned.

P B Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Saturday Evening July 11th 1857

The Board met. Present the President, Vice President and Corresponding Secretary, and on calling the roll, the following Directors, answered to their names. Viz. Messrs Banks, Cook Davis, McKibbin, Street, Taylor and Van Pelt.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports of Committees were called for.

No report was made by the Committee of Ways and Means and Accounts.

Mr. Street from the Committee on Library Reading Room and Building, stated that the Architect was at work upon the perspective, and would soon place it in the hands of lithographers. In reference to the lecture, the Committee had not yet heard from the parties who had been addressed, and asked further time. which was granted.

Mr. Taylor from the Committee on Books and Donations, reported the following donations.

From Mr. Florence Mahoney

The Albion Gallery of Engravings for 1843 1 vol.

" C. C. Chapman

Frost's Modern History Illustrated.	1 vol.
Universalist Union	1 "
Ballou's Nine Sermons.	1 "
Many No's of the Illustrated London News.	
A few pamphlets.	

On motion the above were accepted, and the thanks of the Board voted to the donors.

The President stated that he had had a conversation with Doctor Hayne in reference to a complimentary benefit to be given, at one of the Theaters, to Mrs. Julia Dean Hayne. The President had suggested, that some evening after the close of the Fair, the Institute would be better prepared to act in the matter than at present. The Doctor had expressed himself satisfied.

On Motion of Mr. McKibbin the Board adjourned and the Officers resolved themselves into the Executive Committee.

C P Bowie Sec.

Saturday Evening July 11th 1857

The Executive Committee was called to Order by the President.

Present all the Members but Mr. Kincaid.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Committees were called for.

Mr. McKibbin from the Committee on Building and Ground, had spoken to the Street Commissioner in reference to the Side Walk, and a portion of the Streets bounding the lots on which it was proposed to erect the Building for the Fair, and had been told, that, should the Institute be trespassed upon the Executive were authorized to order the trespassers off. Mr. Gough had a few hands employed on grading the Lot, and had promised to put on more on Monday, at which time the Committee would be ready to commence one of the wings. The Committee wanted workmen. The stone upon the ground had not been removed by Bassetto, as he had promised.

The President as Chairman of the Committee on Finance stated that the Committee had purchased lumber and had agreed to pay for the same in seventy five days. Canvass had been purchased from Messrs Eugene Kelly & Co to be paid for on the 19th of September.

The purchase of Nails would be attended to by Messrs Davis and Kincaid.

Mr. Van Pelt Chairman of the Committee on Medals and Diplomas, no report.

Mr. Banks Chairman of the Committee on Addresses, stated that he had consulted with several Members of the Executive, and Mr. Billings seemed to be the choice of all. Mr Banks, named as members of his Committee, Messrs Street, Elliot, and Williams.

On motion of Mr. McKibbin the Committee were instructed to invite Mr. Billings to deliver the opening address at the Fair.

On motion of Mr. Williams, Mr. Taylor was appointed a Committee to arrange for, and superintend the

saving of the lumber for the Dome of the Building. To report to Building Com. Mr. Elliot spoke of the laying of Gas Pipes. Mr. McKibbin remarked that he thought parties would put up the necessary gas pipes at very little Cost to the Committee.

Mr. Banks proposed that a Committee on Classification be Created. When on motion Mr Banks was made Chairman of said Committee

Mr. Williams remarked, that, inasmuch as his duties as Corresponding Secretary were increasing, he would like to be relieved from the labor of Superintendant. His resignation was not accepted when Messrs. Roach Banks McKibbin and Street volunteered to render such assistance in further canvassing the City, under his direction, as he should require.

Mr. Banks offered the following resolution which on Motion was adopted.

Resolved, That it is the duty of each member of the Executive Committee, be requested to give to Mr. Williams, the Superintendant, in writing, all facts of importance in reference to Articles intended for the Fair, which he can obtain.

Mr. Street moved that each member of the Executive Committee act as a Committee of one to solicit gratuitous labor on the Building for Fair.

Mr. Elliot reported that he had obtained some forty days work to be given on the Building.

Mr. Williams moved that persons obtaining voluntary subscription of labor report the names of those subscribing to the Chairman of Committee on Building. Carried

Adjourned to Wednesday evening next.

P. P. Dexter Sec.

Wednesday evening July 15th 1857

No business done.

Hall of the Institute.

Saturday July 18th 1857

The Executive Committee met. President & the following members. Viz. Messrs. Banks. Cook. Davis. Elliot. McKibbin. Street. Taylor. Van Pelt and Dexter.

The Committee was called to order by the Vice President.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from Committees were called for, when McKibbin from the Committee on Building & Grounds, stated, that considerable progress had been made in the Pavillion, and that with the same number of men employed for a week or more the frame, and the floor would be finished. But two or three of those who had volunteered to labor one or more days on the Building and Grounds had come forward. The Committee suggested the necessity of employing a watchman at night to prevent the carrying away of the lumber and to protect the Building from injury. The expense for labor up to the present time amounted to about $180. This does not include the cost of grading, which will probably amount to as much more $180.

The Report was received, and on motion of Mr. Van Pelt, the Chairman was authorized to employ a suitable person as watchman.

Several members expressed their disappointment at the failure of the persons who had voluntarily subscribed to do a certain amount of labor, to come forward and perform it, especially of those who had been notified of the readiness of the Committee to receive them. It was suggested by Messrs. Van Pelt, Street, Elliot McKibbin and others that it would be better to employ the necessary force, to complete the Building, and agree to pay them from the proceeds of the Fair.

The Finance Committee, had attended to the several matters which had been submitted to them. Messrs Elliot and Street spoke of the cost of the flooring furnished by Soule & Page. Mr. Street would attend at once

that matter and would get it at as a low a figure as possible. $36. per M. had been offered, and $38. demanded.

Mr. Banks, Chairman of Committee on addresses, read a letter from Mr. Billings, declining to accept the invitation by the Executive Committee to deliver the opening address at the Fair. Mr. Cook suggested that the Institute had among its members gentlemen abundantly qualified to prepare and deliver the address required, and thought it best to confine ourselves to our own membership. He suggested the name of Mr. Banks.

On motion of Mr. McKibbin, the Committee resolved itself into the Committee of the whole, to consider the subject of the address, Mr. Van Pelt in the Chair.

Mr. McKibbin then moved, that Mr. Banks be requested to deliver the opening address on the occasion of the Exhibition, which was unanimously concurred in.

On motion the Committee then rose and reported its action to the Ex. Com. which report was received and its action adopted. #

Mr. Van Pelt, Chairman of the Committee on Diplomas and medals laid before the Committee several designs for Diploma and Certificate of Merit. Mr. Van Pelt thought that, instead of Medals, as had been proposed, the cost of which will be not less than two hundred Dollars, it would be more economical to grant Certificates of Merit. ~~two to award medals.~~ The designs were admired and the Committee continued.

Mr. Taylor to whom had been assigned the duty of arranging for the sawing of the lumber for the Dome of the Pavillion, submitted the following report.

To the Executive Committee of the Mechanics Fair.

Your Committee of One on sawing lumber for the Dome, has, since making a previous report, received a more favorable proposition from Messrs Hobbs, Gilmore & Co. that is, that they will do the sawing at the lowest figure offered, and will give one weeks work on the Building in consideration of the same. This is recommended for adoption by your Committee.

Signed Ed. L. Taylor.

On motion of Mr. Street the Report was received and the Committee instructed to close on the most favorable terms.

Mr. McKibbin would like to have a part of that lumber on the ground by noon on Monday. Mr Taylor said Messrs. Hobbs, Gilmore & Co. would not be able to commence the work before Tuesday.

Mr. Fisk from Committee on sewing, reported progress.

A spirited discussion arose as to effect of giving a season ticket of admission to the Fair (in which all the members present participated) (to those who should give one or more days labor upon the Pavilion, and the subject was laid upon the table on motion of Mr. Cook.

Mr. McKibbin and others urged the necessity of holding frequent meetings of the Committee.

On motion the Committee adjourned to Monday Evening at the usual hour.

On motion of Mr. McKibbin the Committee on Addresses was discharged.

Adjourned

P. P. Dexter Sec.

Hall of the Institute.

Wednesday Evening July 22nd 1857.

The Executive Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present Messrs. Banks, Cook, Elliot, Marcaid — McKibbin, Street, Williams, and Dexter, and soon after organizing Sime appeared.

The Committee was called to order by the Vice President.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. McKibbin ~~from the~~ Com. on Building and Grounds spoke of the progress made on the Pavilion. He also stated that he had imployed Mr. Roof as watchman, agreeing to pay him $3. per night, which sum it was thought was not adequate compensation for thirteen hours of service.

On motion of Mr. Williams, the Chairman of the Building Com. was authorized to pay Mr. Roof for services as Watchman of the Pavillion, $4 per night, to date from the commencement of the service, and to continue until further instructed by the Executive Committee.

Mr. Banks said he had been requested by Mr. Fish to inform the Com. that a contract had been made with certain parties to do the sewing for the Roof of the Pavilion.

A communication was received from the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Mr. Milo Calkins, informing the Committee of the passage of a Resolution by the Board, authorizing the erection of a Pavilion, as contemplated by the Institute, which, having been read, was ordered on file.

Mr. McKibbin called up the matter of Diploma, and suggested that some action be had in reference to the adoption of a design. When on motion of Mr. Williams the consideration of Diploma and Medal was made the special order for Friday evening.

Enquiry was made as to the Barge Board or ornamental part of the eaves of the Pavillion, when on motion of Mr. Sime a Committee of one was appointed, with full powers, to attend to that matter, in conjunction with the

superintendant of the Building. The Chair appointed Mr Street as that Committee. Mr. Sime moved, and the motion prevailed, that the above ornamental part of the eaves be of wood and that it extend only to the front, and to the North and South ends of the Pavilion.

Mr. Sime made enquiry as to the action of the Committee in reference to the proposed address to be delivered at the opening of the Fair. Mr. Banks then gave his reasons why he could not consent to prepare and deliver the address. Mr. Sime moved that Mr. Banks be allowed to decline. The motion was carried. Mr. Street then moved that Mr. Williams be requested to deliver the opening address. A discussion hereupon arose in which most of the members took part. When on motion of Mr. Street the Committee resolved itself into the Committee of the whole to consider the subject of selecting a suitable person to deliver the Address, when Mr. Street was called to the Chair.

Mr Sime then moved, that in selecting a gentleman to prepare the proposed address we confine ourselves to the members of the Institute. Mr. McKibbin offered an amendment, that the address be delivered by a Mechanic. Mr. Cook offered a further amendment to the amendment = provided one competent can be found.

The question being taken on Cook's amendment it was lost. The question was then taken on McKibbin's amendment, and it was also lost. Mr Sime then withdrew his motion, as he had only intended it as a test question. On motion of Mr. Elliot the Committee on addresses, which at the last meeting was discharged, was revived. Mr. Sime then moved that the Committee rise and report their proceedings, which motion prevailed. The President having resumed the Chair, the Chairman reported, that the Committee on address had been revived and recommended that its action thereon be adopted. On motion of Mr. Sime the report was received, and the recommendation adopted. Adjourned to Friday evening.

P. B. Dexter Sec.

The subject of granting season tickets to persons volunteering and performing one or more days labor was on motion Mr Cook laid on the table.

Hall of the Institute.

(The Executive) San Francisco Friday evening July 24th 1857.

The Executive Committee met. Present the following members- Messrs. Banks, Cook, McKibbin Elliott, Sime, Street, Taylor and Dexter. Absent Messrs. Davis Kincaid, Van Pelt and Williams.

The Committee was called to order by the President.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The President called up the subject of Diploma which had been made the special order for this evening, at the last meeting of the Committee.

There were three designs laid before the Committee, from which to select. In the absence of Mr. Van Pelt the Chairman of the Committee on Medals and Diplomas, his report in writing was read, and on motion of Mr. Street was received. Mr. Street moved that a Committee of three be appointed to aid the Chairman, and act in conjunction with him in hastening the finishing of the designs then before them. After some conversation among the members, the motion was withdrawn by consent.

Mr. Elliot moved that the design last submitted by Messrs Britton & Rey be made the basis of the design to be adopted by the Committee, when the motion being put, it was lost.

Mr. McKibbin then moved, that as the several designs submitted were in an unfinished state, that they be referred back to the Committee, with instructions, to request Mr. Nahl, and Messrs Britton & Rey to complete them at the earliest possible time, by Monday evening, and submit them for examination, and be accompanied by an estimate of the probable cost. The motion was carried.

Mr. Street, special Committee of one to arrange for the saving of the Barge Boards of the Pavilion, reported that he had attended to that duty, and had arranged with Mr. Wm Davis to do the work. The report was received.

Mr. Banks, Chairman of the Committee on Addresses

reported that the Committee had met and exchanged views in reference to the gentlemen from among whom to select one to be invited to prepare the opening address at the Fair. That the choice had been narrowed down to two, and that the Committee were not unanimous in the choice of either, Dr. Ayers and Mr. A. B. Williams were the gentlemen referred to. He would therefore in making the Majority report, recommend that Dr. Ayers be invited by the Executive Committee to deliver the opening address on the occasion refered to.

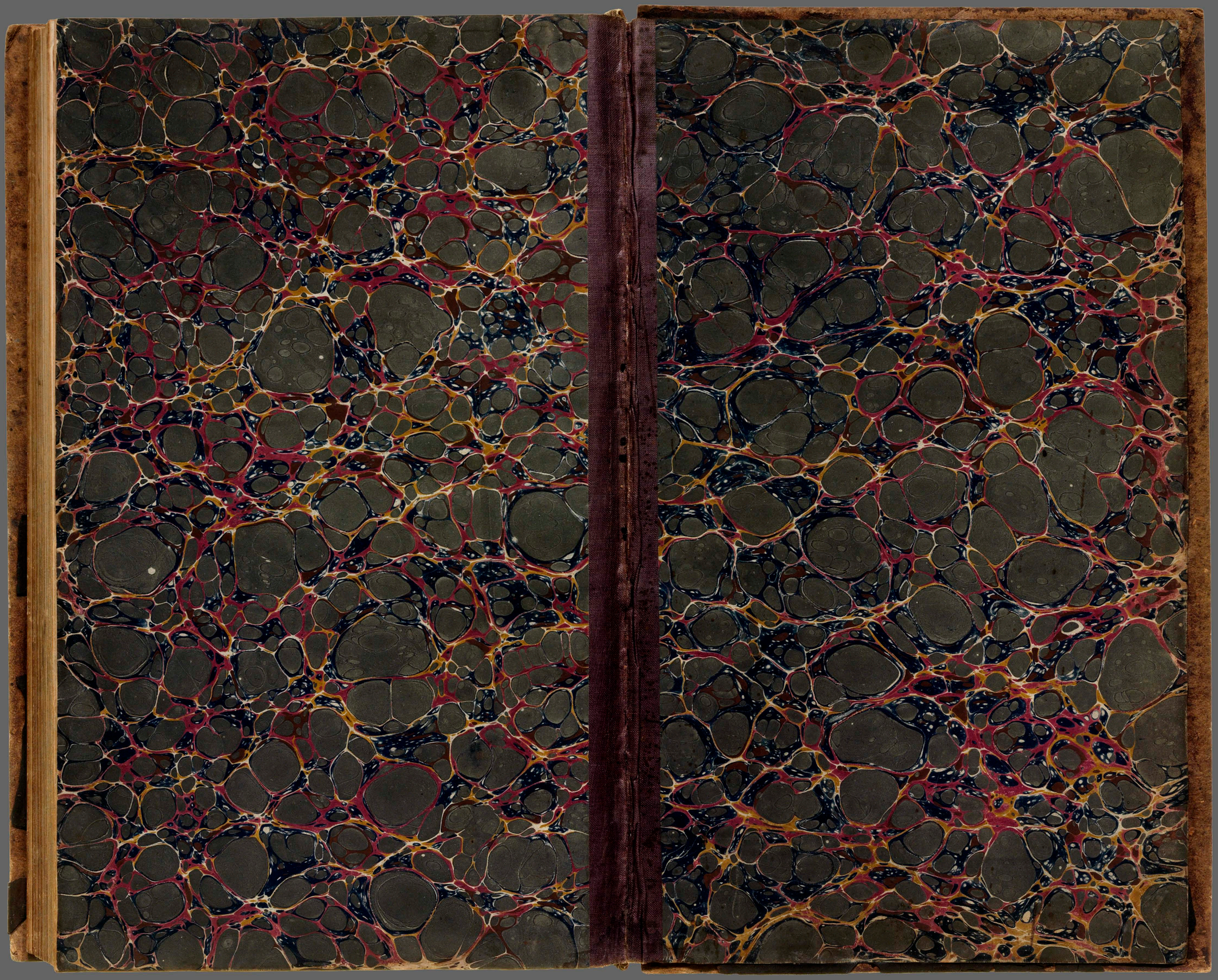
Mr. Street, from the same Committee then submitted the minority report, recommending that Mr. Williams be requested to prepare the address as above.

The reports were received, when Mr. Taylor moved that the recommendation of the minority report of the Committee on Addresses be adopted.

Mr. Banks called for the reading of the communication from Mr. Van Pelt, who was necessarily absent, whose views in reference to this matter he would like to hear. The letter was read. The question was regarded as of much importance to the Institute, and was ably discussed by Messrs Sime, Cook, Street, Taylor and McKibbin. By consent the motion was withdrawn, when Mr. Street moved that the subject be laid over to Monday evening next, which motion prevailed.

The Committee adjourned.

P. Dexter Sec.



Board of Trustees Minutes, 11 December 1854 – 22 July 1857. VOLUME I. Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco.